

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 1828.

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1862.

PRICE
THREEPENCE
Stamped Edition, 4d.

EXTRA CLASS of BOTANY.—Professor OLIVER proposes to give a COURSE of about TEN LECTURES on BOTANY, for advanced Students two hours every day, on SATURDAYS, at 3:30 P.M. Commencing on November 8th. Fee, £1. 10s.—This Course is open to Gentlemen who are not Students of other Classes on payment, in addition, of the College Fee of £s.

A. BARROW, M.D., Dean of the Faculty of Medicine.
T. HEWITT KEY, A.M., F.R.S., Dean of the Faculty of Arts.
CHARLES ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council of the University College of London, Nov. 3, 1862.

MINERALOGY.—Mr. WARINGTON W. SMYTH, M.A., F.R.S., will commence a COURSE of FORTY LECTURES on MINERALOGY, on MONDAY NEXT, the 10th of November, at 8 o'clock, at the ROYAL SCHOOL OF MINES, Jermyn-street, to be continued at the same hour on each succeeding Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Monday.—Fee for the Course, 4*s.*

TRENTHAM REEKS, Registrar.

ROYAL ACADEMY of ARTS.—Professor PARTRIDGE will deliver a COURSE of SIX LECTURES on ANATOMY, on the EVENINGS of MONDAY, November the 10th, 17th and 24th, and the 1st, 8th and 15th of December.—The Lectures commence each Evening at 8 o'clock precisely.
JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Secretary.

UNIVERSITY of LONDON.—CANDIDATES for MATRICULATION can obtain INSTRUCTION in Theoretical and Practical CHEMISTRY, from a GENTLEMAN practically acquainted with the requirements of the University, by applying to C. H. G., Laboratory, University College, W.C.

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS.—CANDIDATES for CIVIL SERVICE APPOINTMENTS are informed that Mr. A. M. BOWER and Mr. W. WATSON, B.A. of London, Assistant-Masters at University College, hold a CLASS for preparing Gentlemen to pass the Examinations for those Appointments. Fee for the Course, 5*s.*—For further particulars, apply to Mr. W. WATSON, 60, Oakley-square, between the hours of 4 and 5 P.M.

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LONDON INSTITUTION.—October 8th, 1862.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the following Courses of LECTURES will be delivered in the Theatre of this Institution during the ensuing Season, commencing on WEDNESDAY, November 1st, at Seven o'clock in the Evening precisely:

First Course.—Six Lectures on the operation of Heat in the Production of Geological Phenomena; with reference principally to the Volcanoes and Earthquakes: by Edward William Brayley, Esq., F.R.S., F.G.S., &c. Wednesday, November 1st, 18th, 25th; December 3rd, 10th, 17th; 1862; January 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th; February 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th; 1863.

Second Course.—Fifteen Lectures on the Chemistry of the Non-Metallic Elements: by Frederick Field, Esq., F.R.S.E., F.C.S., M.R.I.C., Professor of Chemistry in the London Institution. Friday, November 14th, 21st, 28th; December 5th, 12th, 19th, 1862; January 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th; February 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th; 1863.

Third Course.—Four Lectures on the Class Reptilia: by Richard Owen, Esq., F.R.S., F.L.S., F.G.S., Superintendent of the Natural-History Department, British Museum, &c. Monday, November, 17th, 24th; December, 1st, 8th; 1862.

Fourth Course.—Three Lectures on the House of Commons, House of Peers, and Modern Sature: by Shirley Brooks, Esq. Monday, December 5th, 12th, 19th; 1862.

Fifth Course.—Four Lectures on Sculpture: by Richard Westmacott, Esq., R.A., F.R.S., &c., Professor of Sculpture in the Royal Academy. Monday, January 9th, 16th, 23rd; 1863.

Sixth Course.—Two Lectures on Commercial Law, in connexion with the Travers Testimonial Fund: by George Woodway Hastings, Esq., LL.B., Barrister-at-Law: General Secretary of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science. Wednesday, January 14th, 21st, 28th; 1863.

Seventh Course.—Six Lectures on the Zoology of Warm-blooded Vertebrates: being a Description of the Characters and Classification of the Classes Mammalia and Aves: by Charles Carter Blake, Esq. Wednesday, February 4th, 11th, 18th; March 4th, 11th, 18th; 1863.

Eighth Course.—Ten Lectures on Economic Botany; or Vegetable Substances used for Food, and in the Arts, Manufactures, and Medicine: by Robert Bentley, Esq., F.L.S., Professor of Botany in King's College, London, in the London Institution, and a Member of the Royal Society of Great Britain. Friday, March 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th; April 10th, 17th; May 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd; 1863.

Ninth Course.—Four Lectures on the Music of the Opéra comique, as distinguished from the Opéra Seria or Grand Opéra: by Josiah Pittman, Esq., Chapel-Master and Organist to the Hon. Society of Lincoln's Inn. Monday, March 12th, 19th, 26th; 1863.

The Courses of Lectures announced to be delivered on Wednesday and Friday Evenings are especially intended for the Families of Proprietors, who will be admitted to them by a separate Ticket, which is forwarded to every Proprietor.

Your Conversations will be held on the Evenings of Wednesday, December 17th, 1862; January 1st, February 11th, March 18th, 1863. By Order,

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LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1862.

LITERATURE

Lives of the Engineers, with an Account of their principal Works; comprising also a History of Inland Communication in Britain. By Samuel Smiles. With Portraits and Illustrations. Vol. III. *George and Robert Stephenson.* (Murray.)

The title of Mr. Smiles's third volume may mislead the public, and may even subject its author to an imputation of intruding himself into fields already occupied. More than two years ago, the Messrs. Longman announced that a Life of Robert Stephenson would be published by them, from original papers and special sources of information, and that two gentlemen, one a practised writer, the other an eminent engineer, were engaged to accomplish the task. When, therefore, a Life of Robert Stephenson was announced by Mr. Smiles, it was feared that he had dashed off a hasty work in the hope of forestalling the authorized biography. In justice to writer as well as readers, it is right to say that the present volume is no more than a new and corrected edition of Mr. Smiles's biography of the elder Stephenson, expanded with statements, many of which are erroneous, with regard to the life and works of the son. There is no separate memoir of Robert Stephenson; what is said about him being blended with the old narrative of the father's career. How little is said the reader may see. With regard to Robert's life, from his birth till he started for America, there is nothing but what may be found in the author's former work; and of this little the greater part is wrong. Robert's South American career is sketched from Mr. Illingworth's collection of business letters. Of the Empson Papers, without which it is impossible to give even a meagre outline of the South American period, Mr. Smiles has never heard. These papers comprise letters from George Stephenson and his wife, the Peases, Mr. Longridge, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Locke, Mr. Hardcastle, and all the principal associates of the Father of the Railway System. The corrected version of Mr. Smiles's "History of Locomotion" is still defective and erroneous. The Battle of the Gauges is only glanced at; the Atmospheric System and Contest are alluded to, and no more; of the Tubular Bridges, the Egyptian, Norwegian and Canadian works, the writer says nothing with which the ordinary newspaper reader is not familiar. Of Robert Stephenson's domestic life and social pursuits not a glimpse is given. These facts lead us to suppose that Mr. Smiles had no serious desire to trespass on a quarry not his own.

The third volume of the "Lives of the Engineers" will be judged by its merits rather than by its intentions. We are sorry to say it is very far from being a perfect book; but the reader shall be put in a condition to judge for himself.

Speaking of the origin of the Stephenson family, Mr. Smiles says,—“A tradition is, indeed, preserved in the family that old Robert Stephenson's father and mother came across the Border from Scotland, on the loss of considerable property there. Miss Stephenson, daughter of Robert Stephenson's third son, John, states that a suit was even commenced for the recovery of the property, but was dropped for want of means to prosecute it.” In this sentence there is a confusion of two traditions. Old Robert's father actually came out of Scotland, as a gentleman's servant. The lawsuit referred to the property of

Thomas Wilson, yeoman, of Bywell, in Northumberland. Old Robert's wife, Mabel, was the daughter of a dyer named Carr, and his wife, Eleanor Carr (*née* Wilson). The Wilsons were members of the rich and gentle yeomanry of Northumberland, one of them remaining with the luckless Earl of Derwentwater till his downfall. Carr, the dyer of Ovingham, ran away with Eleanor Wilson from boarding-school; for which offence her father disowned the girl, and made no mention of her in his will. To obtain a portion of the father's property, Eleanor's husband commenced a lawsuit, the memory of which rankled in the breasts of the Carrs long after they had intermarried with the Stephensons. Miss Stephenson's vaguely-remembered tradition must relate to this piece of family history.

Of “Old Robert,” Mr. Smiles says, “another feature of his character, by which he was long remembered, was his affection for birds and animals; and he had many tame favourites of both sorts, which were as fond of resorting to his engine as the boys and girls themselves.” This feature of the old man's character, by which he “was long remembered” as a person out of the ordinary way, is an almost universal trait of workmen in the Northumbrian field.

Coming to George Stephenson's industrious life at Black Callerton, Mr. Smiles says:—

“Probably he was stimulated to take in hand this extra work by the attachment he had by this time formed for a young woman named Fanny Henderson, who officiated as servant in the small farmer's house in which he lodged. The personal attractions of Fanny, though these were considerable, were the least of her charms. Her temper was of the sweetest; and those who knew her were accustomed to speak of the charming modesty of her demeanour, her kindness of disposition, and withal her sound good sense. Amongst his various mending of old shoes at Callerton, George was on one occasion favoured with the shoes of his sweetheart to sole. One can imagine the pleasure with which he would linger over such a piece of work, and the pride with which he would execute it. A friend of his, still living, relates that, after he had finished the shoes, he carried them about with him in his pocket on the Sunday afternoon, and that from time to time he would whip them out and hold them up, exclaiming, ‘what a capital job he had made of them!’ Other lovers have carried about with them a lock of their fair one's hair, a glove, or a handkerchief; but none could have been prouder of their cherished love-token than was George Stephenson of his Fanny's shoes, which he had just soled, and of which he had made such a ‘capital job.’”

This is a pretty story; but let us see whether it is true. To do so, a word must be said about Fanny Henderson, whom in a previous work Mr. Smiles describes as “a fair maiden.” A few words must also be said about two other of George Stephenson's “loves.” Whilst he lodged in the farmhouse of Thomas Thompson at Black Callerton, he made within the short space of twelve months three offers of marriage. First of all he proposed to Miss Hindmarsh, daughter of a Black Callerton farmer, and was accepted; but on Mr. Hindmarsh hearing of the affair, he forbade it, and ordered the young brakeman to keep away from his premises. This lady subsequently became her lover's second wife. George's next suit was to Ann Henderson, the youngest and prettiest of several sisters. For her he made “the shoes,” and by her he was refused. The third offer was made to Ann's elder sister, Fanny, a young woman who was not old enough to be his mother, but was certainly somewhat too old to be a suitable wife for a husband aged twenty-one. Mr. Smiles has heard an erroneous version of George's first love-passages with

Elizabeth Hindmarsh, and he does right to reject it, but when he quotes Mr. Thomas Hindmarsh as a witness that George “never exchanged a word with Miss Hindmarsh till the year 1818,” we must assure the biographer and the lady's brother that they are both mistaken; and we do so on testimony of which the evidence of several of Miss Hindmarsh's relations is only a part. As to Ann Henderson's capture of George's affections, Mr. Pattison, her nephew, writes, “The pair of shoes mentioned in the Life of G. S. as having been made for Fanny Henderson, afterwards his wife, were not made for her, but for her sister Ann, whom he ardently admired; but not succeeding with her, he said he would have one of the family, and he turned his attention to Fanny. She was twelve years older than he was, being thirty-four years of age when Robert was born.” Mr. Pattison's statement is corroborated by many members of his family. But how comes it that Mr. Smiles never inspected the registers of the parish in which his “fair maiden” and “young woman” was buried? Had he done so, he would have found mention of Robert Stephenson's sister, who is never alluded to in his work, and would also have found this entry:—“Buried 1806, Frances Stephenson, late Henderson, Westmoor, wife of George Stevenson (*sic*). Died 14 May. Buried May 16. Aged 37 years.” This entry would have saved him from a mistake, had he seen it, besides the error of making Fanny die in 1804. In his account of the wedding of the “fair maiden” and the young brakeman, Mr. Smiles gives a fac-simile of the signatures, and draws attention to the blotch of George's signature; but it has escaped him that George signed for himself and his wife, the “fair maiden” being unable to write.

Passing over scores of minor mistakes, let us speak of the education George Stephenson gave his son Robert. Although Mr. Smiles has modified his enthusiasm on this subject, he still maintains that George procured the means for educating his only child by extra work, at cobbling and clock-cleaning, and quotes as his authority George Stephenson:—

“To give his own words:—‘In the earlier period of my career,’ said he, ‘when Robert was a little boy, I saw how deficient I was in education, and I made up my mind that he should not labour under the same defect, but that I would put him to a good school, and give him a liberal training. I was, however, a poor man; and how do you think I managed? I betook myself to mending my neighbours' clocks and watches at nights, after my daily labour was done, and thus I procured the means of educating my son.’”

When Stephenson uttered these words at an after-dinner speech in 1844, and repeated them on various occasions, he had no intention to state what was false. Like Lord Eldon, who in the days of his prosperity used to indulge in pathetic reminiscences of the poverty he had never experienced, George Stephenson in perfect honesty believed that he made efforts and personal sacrifices to educate his son which it is matter of certainty were never made for that end. While Robert was Tommy Rutherford's pupil, his schooling cost from 4d. to 6d. a week, and his father earned an income which, at the lowest computation, rose from 80*l.* to 130*l.* per annum. George's clock-cleaning business, in a district where every workman has a good clock to be cleaned, and where he was employed as clock-cleaner by gentry and farmers, was a lucrative affair. In 1812, he received from the “Grand Allies” alone a salary of 100*l.*, with coals and house-rent. Well, he sent his only child to Rutherford's school, where at least two-thirds of the pupils were children

of poorer fathers. What is there in this for eulogy? Had George Stephenson done less, he would have been cried "shame" upon the whole country through.

After the midsummer holidays of 1815, Robert Stephenson was sent as a day-pupil to Bruce's Academy, Newcastle, where he continued his education till the midsummer of 1819, in all four years. The entire cost of this schooling (cost of books included, as well as a fee of 17. 1s. to Mr. Turner for a course of lectures) was 36l. 14s. 9d., or a little over 9/- per annum. In the mean time, what were George Stephenson's circumstances? Mr. Smiles imagines him to be living on his salary of 100*l.*, per annum and his clock-cleaning. The case however, was far different. Before the father sent his son to Bruce's Academy, he had secured an appointment in the Walker Ironworks of Messrs. Losh, Wilson & Bell, from which, for two days' work a week, he received a salary of 100*l.* and a commission on the sale of certain goods. This appointment he held for years, until he quarrelled with Mr. Losh, and joined Messrs. Longridge & Pease. The "Grand Allies" acquiesced in this arrangement, paying their engine-wright at the same rate for four days' work, instead of six. Thus, all the time Robert Stephenson was at school at Newcastle, George had two concurrent appointments, yielding him 100*l.* a year each—his clock-cleaning business, the interest of not unimportant savings, the considerable fees paid him as an engine-doctor, as time went on, 1,100*l.* reward for his safety-lamp, a commission on the sale of certain goods, together with coals and rent free. In short his income, at the lowest estimation, varied between 300*l.* per annum and 400*l.*, and he paid a little more than 9/- yearly for the education of his only child! When Robert was sent to Edinburgh for a few months, his father was a richer man than half the parents who send their sons to Cambridge.

Till this day Mr. Smiles is ignorant of George Stephenson's long and lucrative engagement at the Walker Ironworks. Yet it was in those works that some of the engineer's early triumphs were achieved. At Walker, Stephenson made his great engine (of which his biographer has now heard for the first time), "The Friar's Goose Pumping-Engine," which began in July 1823 to pump with such good effect that the first cargo of Woodside coals was shipped on the 21st of November 1824.

We need not notice all Mr. Smiles's blunders. But here is a batch of them, which may not be passed over. At p. 144 he says—"He accordingly took Robert from his labours as under-viewer in the Westmoor Pit, and, in the year 1820, sent him to the Edinburgh University." At p. 148 he says—"Towards the end of the summer the young student returned to Killingworth to re-enter upon the active duties of his life. *The six months' study* had cost his father 80*l.*" At p. 242 he says—"We have seen that on his return from Edinburgh College, *at the end of 1821*, he assisted," &c. How can Mr. Smiles reconcile these statements? We must tell him that Robert Stephenson did not stay so long as six months in Edinburgh, and that his residence in the University was neither in 1820 nor in 1821. Had Mr. Smiles read the series of Robert's entertaining College letters, he would have seen the date of 1822 on the earliest of them, and the date 1823 on the latest. On the 11th of April 1823 Robert Stephenson wrote:—"I have been fortunate in winning a prize in the Natural Philosophy Class for some mathematical questions, given by Prof. Leslie, relative to the various branches of Natural Philosophy."

Mr. Smiles had told in his former book, and has repeated in this volume, a story about Buckland and Follett at Tamworth. The story may be amusing, but it is certainly not true as Mr. Smiles tells it. We are told—

"On one occasion, an animated discussion took place between himself and Dr. Buckland on one of his favourite theories as to the formation of coal. But the result was, that Dr. Buckland, a much greater master of tongue-fence than Mr. Stephenson, completely silenced him. Next morning, before breakfast, when he was walking in the grounds, deeply pondering, Sir William Follett came up and asked him what he was thinking about!—'Why, Sir William, I am thinking over that argument I had with Buckland last night; I know I am right, and that if I had only the command of words which he has, I'd have beaten him.'—'Let me know all about it,' said Sir William, 'and I'll see what I can do for you.' The two sat down in an arbour, and the astute lawyer made himself thoroughly acquainted with the points of the case; entering into it with all the zeal of an advocate about to plead the dearest interests of his client. After he had mastered the subject, Sir William rose up, rubbing his hands with glee, and said, 'Now I am ready for him.' Sir Robert Peel was made acquainted with the plot, and adroitly introduced the subject of the controversy after dinner. The result was, that in the argument which followed, the man of science was overcome by the man of law; and Sir William Follett had at all points the mastery over Dr. Buckland. 'What do you say, Mr. Stephenson?' asked Sir Robert, laughing.—'Why,' said he, 'I will only say this, that of all the powers above and under the earth, there seems to me to be no power so great as the gift of the gab.'

This story will not bear examination. George Stephenson's visit to Drayton was paid in the December of 1844, not the January of 1845. This error, however, is not so great as the credulity of the story-teller who could believe that on a geological question Dr. Buckland saw less surely than George Stephenson. But the best fun of the fabrication is found in the part which concerns Sir William Follett. Is it credible that the delicate and overworked Sir William Follett, who died in the following June of pulmonary consumption, against which he had contended for years, would, in the cold winter season of the year, sit down in an arbour with George Stephenson, and, before breakfast, talk to him about coal formations? Sir William Follett was not of the party! Sir Robert Peel's guests were Lord Talbot, Lord Aylesford, the Bishop of Lichfield, Dr. Buckland, Dr. Lyon Playfair, Prof. Owen, George Stephenson, Mr. Smith of Deanston, and Prof. Wheatstone. In an earlier edition of his Biography, Mr. Smiles put Chantrey (who died in 1841) amongst Sir Robert Peel's guests during the Christmas holidays of 1844–5. He must remove the lawyer, as well as the sculptor, from the scene.

Here is another instance, from the *personal* history, of Mr. Smiles's accuracy about which he makes a boast. At page 32 he says, "George, with his companion Coe, went to work at Black Callerton early in 1801." At page 38 he says, "After working at Black Callerton for about two years, he received an offer to take charge of the engine on Willington Ballast Hill at an advanced wage." At page 40, he describes George as riding off to his "new home" at Willington, immediately after his wedding, Nov. 28, 1802. At page 43 he says, "After working for about three years as brakesman at the Willington machine, George Stephenson was induced to leave his situation there for a similar one at the West Moor Colliery, Killingworth"—to which place, the biography says, George came in the year 1804. At page 44 Mr. Smiles's words are, "To this place George Stephenson came as brakesman

in 1804. He had scarcely settled down in his new home, ere he sustained a heavy loss in the death of his wife." How can Mr. Smiles reconcile these passages? Can the period between Nov. 28, 1802, and any date in 1804 comprise about three years? So far from dying almost before her husband had settled down in his new home, Fanny gave birth to daughter, July 1805, and died (as we have already stated) in the May of 1806. Mr. Smiles is very fond of using the word "about" when he gives a date. At page 142 he says, "We have already seen that Robert was sent to school at Newcastle, and that he left it about the year 1818"; the fact being that the boy went to school at Newcastle till the midsummer holidays of 1819,—a circumstance of importance to the reader who would estimate rightly the preparatory culture of one who, whilst he was still a lad, had to direct great engineering works. At page 159, Mr. Smiles, speaking of George's second wife, says—"his second wife (Elizabeth Hindmarsh), the daughter of a farmer, at Black Callerton, whom he had married in 1819." The marriage took place in Newburn Church, on March 29, 1820. Mr. Smiles can satisfy himself of this by inspecting the Newburn register. It is also worthy of remark, that though Mr. Smiles dedicates some pages to the closing years of George Stephenson's life, he does not mention his third marriage, shortly before his death. A brief notice of the occurrence would have been more valuable than his fiction about the "fair maiden," Fanny Henderson.

The same loose composition, deficient knowledge and carelessness of dates characterize the writer's description of George's operations as an engineer. It has already been seen that Mr. Smiles is in ignorance with regard to George Stephenson's years of labour in the Walker Iron-works. He mentions George once and again as Mr. Losh's co-patentee, never as the capitalist's salaried servant.

In Mr. Smiles's account of the safety-lamp there is a wonderful and perfectly untrue anecdote. If Stephenson had acted in the way described he would have been anything but a hero. What George really did in the way of encountering danger, Mr. Nicholas Wood (George's co-operator in the construction of the lamp and in the experiments) has told the world in the following words:—"There is a very pretty story in Smiles's book of this trial, which it is almost a pity even partially to destroy. The danger, however, in reality, was not quite so great as there represented: the box or cabin in which the lamp was tried was not of such dimensions as would, if an explosion had taken place, have produced the effect there described. A small quantity of gas was only required, and we had sufficient experience not to employ more gas than was necessary: at most, an explosion might have burnt the hands of the operator, but would not extend a few feet from the blower." Readers of Mr. Smiles's book must therefore, write "Fiction" by the side of the story.

In more than one place, Mr. Smiles, in describing an important work, leaves his readers in doubt whether its merit should be attributed to the elder Stephenson or to the younger, or to both. At page 301 he says, "Robert Stephenson constructs the London and Birmingham Railway"; and at page 311 he observes, "The difficulties encountered by the *Messrs. Stephenson* in constructing the line were thus very great." Hence, at one place Robert is set forth as the responsible engineer; and at another, George and Robert are represented as the joint engineers of the line. If Mr. Smiles had taken the trouble to seek for

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information in the books of the company, he would have gained a clear insight into the facts. At page 302 he says, George was "at once appointed the engineer of the London and Birmingham Railway, in conjunction with his son"; and the author evidently thinks that father and son co-operated in the undertaking until its completion. The appointment referred to above was made in 1830, when George and Robert were engaged, *not to construct* the line, but to make a survey of a proposed route for parliamentary purposes. That special work effected, the engagement was at an end. Other surveys were made by Robert alone; the father having been excluded from the enterprise, because the lawyers and certain influential projectors of the scheme feared that he would lessen their chances of getting their bill if he were brought before a Parliamentary Committee as the engineer of the railway. George Stephenson was a very poor witness. His first statements lacked clearness, and on cross-examination he was liable to contradict himself, become confused and break down. In the opinion of the lawyers, the parliamentary defeat of the Liverpool and Manchester Bill was due to his deficiencies as a witness, not less than to the mistakes which were made in taking the levels. For this reason, therefore, George Stephenson was dropped out of the affair. Robert made the subsequent survey, on which the company gained their Bill, and was their engineer for the project until it was safe through Parliament. That effected, his engagement was at an end. He had again to make interest with the directors to get himself appointed engineer for the construction of the line. A strong party of the directors opposed his application, on the alleged ground that he was too young a man for the place; but his friends in the directory prevailed, and, on September 7, 1833, it was resolved by the board "that Mr. Robert Stephenson be appointed engineer-in-chief for the whole line, at a salary of £1,500 per annum, and an addition of £200 per annum to cover all contingent expenses, subject to the rules and regulations for the engineer's department, as approved by the respective committees." Subsequently, this salary was raised. But George Stephenson, from first to last, was not employed in the construction. How, then, can Mr. Smiles speak of "the difficulties encountered by the *Messrs. Stephenson* in constructing the line"? At a period of great trial, Robert consulted his father; but he also sought the advice of other engineers. To Robert alone is due the honour of having given London its first great line of railway.

A remarkable omission in this memoir is the author's silence on the evidence given by George and Robert during the Blackwall contest. Both father and son opposed the use of locomotives on the Blackwall line, fearing that the engines would set fire to London. Why has not Mr. Smiles recorded this instructive and remarkable fact? Biographies of great men should notice their mistakes as well as their victories.

Mr. Smiles has greatly altered his views with regard to the history of the locomotive. He admits that to Wylam and Mr. Hedley is due the credit of discovering that the adhesion of smooth wheels upon smooth rails was sufficient for locomotive traction; and he allows that George Stephenson's first locomotive was, in respect of principle, an adoption of another man's invention. In an Appendix to his volume, he publishes a narrative of George Stephenson's inventions, communicated to him by Robert, of which interesting paper engineers will read the following passages with pleasure:—

"When my father commenced his improvements upon the locomotive engine, two comparatively successful attempts had already been made—one by Mr. Blenkinsop, of Leeds, and the other by Mr. Blackett, of Wylam. ** The other attempt by Mr. Blackett also consisted of two engines combined; but their action was communicated to the wheels by which the entire engine was supported, and therefore depended entirely upon the adhesion between the wheels and the rails for making progress. This experiment of Mr. Blackett's was made upon what is called a tramroad, the flange being upon the rail, instead of (as it is at present in the ordinary rails) upon the wheel. When my father began his first engine, he was convinced that the adhesion between a smooth wheel and an edge-rail would be as efficient as Mr. Blackett had found it to be between the wheel and the tramroad. Although every one at that time argued that the adhesion upon a tram-rail was by no means a criterion of what the adhesion would be on an edge-rail, my father felt sure that there was no essential difference between the one and the other."

After describing his father's second and improved engine, Robert Stephenson says:—

"Thus, in 1815, my father had succeeded in manufacturing an engine which included the following important improvements on all previous attempts in the same direction:—simple and direct communication between the cylinders and the wheels rolling upon the rails; joint adhesion of all the wheels, attained by the use of horizontal connecting-rods; and, finally, a beautiful method of exciting the combustion of fuel by employing the waste steam, which had formerly been allowed uselessly to escape. It is, perhaps, not too much to say that this engine, as a mechanical contrivance, contained the germ of all that has since been effected. It may be regarded, in fact, as a type of the present locomotive engine."

The contribution to the locomotive on which Robert Stephenson most strongly upheld his father's title to regard as one who *improved* the travelling-engine, which *others had invented*, was "the blast"—that is, the means by which the waste steam, thrown into the chimney, quickens the draught, and keeps the fire burning fiercely.

In his work Mr. Smiles stated of George Stephenson's first engine, "The wheels of the new locomotive were all smooth, and it was the *first* engine that had been so constructed." When he made this assertion, he had by his side Mr. Nicholas Wood's standard work on Railroads, which says the reverse. He might also have referred to Mr. Dunn's 'Northern Coal Trade,' and to other sources of accurate information which agree with Mr. Wood. Speaking of the Wylam engine, Mr. Dunn says, "This engine succeeded so well, that it drew eight loaded wagons at the rate of four or five miles per hour, and completely superseded the use of horses, which at that time was a serious expense to the colliery, and notwithstanding the railroad was on the tramroad system. In justice, therefore, to Mr. Hedley, he is entitled to the honour of being the inventor of the locomotive on the present principle." Of course, Mr. Dunn means the principle of adhesion. It was, therefore, no question on which Mr. Smiles has an excuse for his mistake. He had a written history of ascertained accuracy to guide him. He had also Robert Stephenson at his elbow, telling him the exact reverse of what he wrote. What explanation has Mr. Smiles to offer? His present volume proves his first history of the locomotive to be so much waste paper; and the buyers of that history have a right to know why, in its composition, Mr. Smiles not only set aside written history, but departed from the instructions of Robert Stephenson.

For years certain members of the engineering profession and of the outside public have laboured under the impression that

Robert Stephenson instigated Mr. Smiles to claim for his father another engineer's invention. It now appears that, far from doing so, he gave the writer information directly at variance with the groundless claim.

Our Last Years in India. By Mrs. John B. Speid. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

'Our Last Years in India' is a pleasant book; it gives a lively, gossiping picture of daily life among officers' wives in out-of-the-way stations in India. To those who have been in India this will be nothing new; yet the clever representation of common still-life objects or homely scenes makes many charming pictures.

'Our Last Years in India' is written by the wife of an officer: she had to fly at the outbreak of the mutiny, and returned the year following to share the concluding portion of her husband's residence. The 'Last Years in India' has an entirely personal, and no political significance. Mrs. Speid is a pleasant, clever, almost witty woman, and a charming correspondent, for this whole book is written in imagination to her sisters in England; but it has not the fatiguing formality of an unintermitting course of letters; it has the episodic ease and grace without the drawbacks. Mrs. Speid is a brave-hearted woman, as the wife of an Indian officer needs to be.

Here is a brief record, but how much is contained in the allusion!—

"December 1st.—I was glad to meet again at Ahmednugur the kind friends, a clergyman and his wife, who sheltered us for two months, while the mutinies were at their height. ** It was a pleasant meeting, and again I thought what a contrast to last year, when I and the poor little children entered the same house as strangers and fugitives, escaping for our lives."

Aurungabad, in the Deccan, was Mrs. Speid's destination; and thither she had to proceed alone, the brave little woman. Her husband, being in command of the 2nd Regiment of the Hyderabad Contingent, had his hands full, Tantia Topee, then unhanged, being daily expected in the Deccan. Here are two sketches, contrasts and *pendants*,—a visit from an Indian great man, and one from a great Englishman:—

"January 30th, 1859.—The Subah has been here with all his motley train, on a visit of ceremony—one of the manifold polite attentions whereby he strives to cherish in my husband's breast the feeble vitality of a very tepid friendship. The Subah is the Nizam's local representative, having, of course, no jurisdiction in the cantonment, the limits of which are indicated by a line of small brick pillars. Those who reside within their circuit are under British rule and protection, all beyond are under the Nizam or his vice; perhaps the word used plurally would convey the fact more accurately. * Oh! for an Oriental colour-box full of reds and yellows, and pinks and greens, and gold-leaf shells, wherewith to sketch for you the *cortege* of the great man, as it wound up the banyan-bordered road leading from the city, and careered round the 'compound.' ** In the van curvetted and caroled two white horses; they had been educated to do so, and did it 'wi' pains, poor old things, and with something of the incongruity of senile harlequinism. Very brilliant were their housings of blue, red, and green; very resplendent their beautifully shaded pink tails (!), and sumptuous their heavy necklaces and bracelets; yes, bracelets of silver. ** Then succeeded a number of standard-bearers, carrying small triangular crimson flags, with creases or daggers emblazoned thereon, in silver leaf. Then the Subah's confidential adviser and state conscience-keeper. ** This gentleman, whose office, you will observe, it is generally 'to make things pleasant,' was appropriately attired in a garment *courte de rose*, in a pink calico shawl with silver tinsel border,

lovely to behold. * * The great man, the Subah himself, who is seated in a sort of shallow tray-like howdah, without canopy, and covered with scarlet cloth, on an elephant. The elephant, too, is all glorious with red cloth and great abundance of yellow fringing; and as he heaves his great deliberate limbs, large bells swing at each side make—so strong are the influences of association, so modifying those of time and place—an imposing jangling. A sort of red and yellow night-cap tied under the vast creature's chin suggests age and rheumatism; he, too, has an embossed silver necklace, but he takes no account of it, nor of any of his splendid trappings. * * The Subah descends, and to mark the auspicious moment, a herald shouts the conventional prayer, "May Allah increase the wealth and years of him who now descends." The Subah, seating himself, and having arranged his petticoats, after a little reflection remarks, bending on you a lack-lustre eye, that "he has long desired the happiness of beholding you, that now, having attained this chief wish of his life, his mind feels tranquillized." You bow in acknowledgment of a responsive bliss. Then, with deliberation, he turns to the Saheb, and notifies that the city rings with his praises; and that it has reached his ears that the Saheb is a gentleman of a very remarkable temperament, that the sweetness of his disposition, his affability, and condescension, are matters patent to the community. The Saheb looks modest repudiation, and acknowledges the coincidental merits of the Subah. Then, with a sudden recoil from these overstrained efforts at Oriental suavity, and feeling that, under the provocation and recollection of recent local reports, these manners are, on his part, too good to last, the Saheb abruptly asks the great man to be so good as to inform him how it has come to pass that the silver small coin lately issued from the Aurangabad mint, and twenty-six of which have lately been foisted on the community as the equivalent for a rupee, are in fact of only about half their nominal value."

Here is the English great man's visit:—

"March 10th.—Sir Hugh Rose, the hero of the Central Indian campaign, has lately paid one or two flying visits to our quiet station; the last a few days ago. The natives were, I daresay, slow to believe that the traveller who entered the cantonment in a rough bullock bandy, and looked so worn, and fagged, and dusty, could really be the great general, who had made the rebels tremble at his coming. * * Sir Hugh has the appearance of having suffered much in health, from the hardship and exposure of the last terribly trying campaign, but nothing will abate his indomitable energy and activity. The work he cut out for himself for one day here, was, first a visit to Dowlatabad in a bandy, over such roads as no untravelled English mind can conceive of; the exploration of the fortress; a ride ten miles farther to examine the Ellora Caves (in itself a very hard day's work), and to crown all, a journey of seventy miles, during the night and following morning, to Ahmednuggur. The fact of the presence of a hot tropical sun, during a great part of the performance, lends to its details an emphasis, which those alone who know India can appreciate. An officer passing through the station the other day gave us some characteristic anecdotes of Sir Hugh, which, as they belong to his military career, I trust I may retail without any violation of the sanctities of private life. At Jansi he came into the works at six o'clock one morning, and having long occupied himself with their examination, at nine he was asked by some of those present to take some breakfast, which had been prepared there. 'No, thank you, only a glass of water.' Twelve o'clock—one—two—the staff begins to feel exhausted; three o'clock—four;—'The man,' remarked one of the bystanders, 'is made of brass, with wire works.' But the staff must have patience yet: five—six, and at half past seven the general diners. At Ratnghur, I think it was, he persisted in standing in a spot where he was exposed to a perpetual fire from a man who had been seen, repeatedly and deliberately, to take aim at him from the fort. Sir Hugh was leaning his head on his arms, calmly

looking over the wall. He was requested to move to a more protected point, where, it was observed, he could see just as well: 'No, thanks, I am very well here,' and while he spoke, 'ping, ping,' rung the shrill bullets close to his head. 'What a bad shot that fellow is!' quietly remarked the general; 'he has aimed at me twenty times without once hitting.'

There is a compendious account of the Hill Tribes and their worship, which has an interest from the local colouring; but as all the information is taken from Prof. Max Müller's work on Ancient Sanskrit Literature, we give no extract from it. The writer says that "one of her chief objects has been to furnish information on some subjects of interest from which the general reader has hitherto been repelled either by their mode of treatment, or their combination with matters interesting only to the exact student." Mrs. Speid remarks of the Brahminical religion, what has been observed of the Greek mythology—that, "stripped of its accretions of modern mythology, it is a study replete with interest, and one of which an accurate knowledge of the repulsive fables of modern Hinduism forms no essential part." The further back we go in all religions, the more the "accretions" drop off, and we meet with the essential unity of "One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in all."

Our Feathered Families: a Popular and Poetical Description of the Birds of Song, and their Congeners, which are found in Great Britain. With Practical Hints for the Breeding, Rearing, and General Management of Song-Birds in Confinement. By H. G. Adams. With Illustrations. (Hogg & Sons.)

"OUR Feathered Families" are to be popularly and poetically described in what the publishers call "three elegant and inexpensive volumes"; and the title of the first is 'The Birds of Song.' The phrases "Our Feathered Families" and "Birds of Song" are, we submit, affected and over-fine. Bird is a word derived from the Saxon *bredan*, and signifies an animal which broadens or spreads itself; and of these animals there are some which hunt, some frequenting water, some which sing, and others which are hunted. "Our Feathered Families" is a phrase which might suggest to some minds the families of the hominid kingdom who have "feathered their nests." And yet the present volume is an improvement on its predecessor, 'The Wild Flowers, Birds, and Insects of the Months,' by the same author; for although the critic whose duty it is to test the quality of his book cannot, at present, congratulate the author upon having become a compiler and ceased to be a book-maker, he may allow that Mr. Adams has now put less declamation and more information into his pages. Compilers there must be. Old knowledge must be reviewed and recast, novel facts and ideas must replace obsolete statements and notions, and the discoveries of science must be translated out of technical into popular language: but book-makers are not compilers, being only extract-pasters.

The present volume consists of extracts from the works of original observers and descriptive poets, strung together by means of common-place reflections and remarks. The author never seems to have asked himself what a bird is. No doubt, he dilates upon feathers, and illustrates the saying "as light as a feather" by mentioning that seven of the quills of the golden eagle do not weigh more than a copper penny-piece. But the aerial structure which instigates these animals to broaden themselves upon the breeze, and is the marvel of their organization, he never seems to have thought of or heard of.

Birds fly because they have air in their bones. Shortly after they are hatched, the marrow in their bones is re-absorbed, and their bones become filled with rarefied air, or gas. This structure of the bones, and the canals by which their tubes communicate with the lungs, are found in different degrees in all birds; and it is this structure, and not their feathers merely, which enables them to fly. The absence of the marrow, and the presence of tubes or canals communicating with the organs which receive air, are the great characteristics of the bird group or class of animals; and in Mr. H. G. Adams we have an author engaged in writing three volumes upon them, and yet so superficially acquainted with the elements of his subject as to be entirely ignorant of it. And even when he talks of the peculiar organs which enable birds to produce their sweet sounds, he quotes somebody whom he calls "the Naturalist," who says, "the rook and the hooded crow require as complex an apparatus to produce their unmusical cries as that which the blackbird and nightingale employ in modulating their voices."—"This is another of those mysteries," says Mr. H. G. Adams, "which puzzle and perplex the natural philosopher."—"The knife, the needle, and the lens do not enable us to detect any superior organization in the warbler over the crow," we are gravely told, by some one who is creating a mystery out of his own ignorance of the labours of such physiologists as Savart and Müller. For without the aid of knife, needle or lens, great differences are observable in the muscular structure of the lower larynx of birds; and the differences in the rigidity and flexibility of these muscles are very notable between the warblers and the crows.

The French have several really good and popular elementary books on birds; whilst the publication before us is but a sample of a great number of English works of its kind, into which the public look for solid and satisfactory information without finding it. However superficial it may be in its physiology, Mr. Adam's book, we are glad to perceive, does not omit all the recent additions to the list of British birds. We have found in it figures and descriptions of the blue-throated warbler, the shore lark, and Richard's pipit. In reference to the last, he should have learnt that more than two specimens of this delicately olive-brown titlark have been caught in this country. If the artist who drew the figure of it had seen a specimen, he would have perceived that the long hind-claw is made too long in all the engravings of the bird. The shore or horned lark, also, has not the port natural to it in the woodcut before us, bearing itself, when alive, more proudly and erectly, and not tamely, as here seen, like a barn-door chicken. No more beautiful addition could be made to the charms of British coast scenery than these shore larks! And it is not the fault of the birds themselves if they have not long since been delighting seaside visitors and loungers with their unexpected songs. If men with more money than science did not give tempting sums for stuffed specimens of them, believing them to be extremely rare, they would soon establish themselves. But let us hope, now that they have been described in popular books, and are known to be far from rare, that this persecution will cease, and that these larks, distinguished and interesting for their song, their appearance and their habits, will be henceforth allowed to visit our shores, building their nests among British mosses and lichens without being harried, and carolling above British cliffs and rocks without being shot.

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Five Months on the Yang-tsze; with a Narrative of the Exploration of its Upper Waters, and Notices of the Present Rebellions in China.
By Thomas W. Blakiston, late Captain Royal Artillery. Illustrations and Maps. (Murray.)

HAVING suffered from easterly winds, we have always suspected something wrong in the quarter from which they blow; so that we are not surprised to learn that there is at present a "sick man" in the east of Europe, another in the east of America, and a third in the east of Asia. Political doctors are at their wit's end; nearly every drug of the "Pharmacopeia Universalis" has been tried without result; and bold minds are not wanting who recommend amputation of certain limbs in order to save the lives of the patients. Nevertheless, we do not give up all hope. The patients appear to us very much like the Scotchmen outside tobacconists' shops, who are always going to take a pinch of snuff and never do it. The "Grand Turk" has a tough constitution; Brother Jonathan may be all the better for a little blood-letting; and John Chinaman is used to internal crises. At one time, there were no less than twenty-two different disturbances in his body politic; yet he survived; and at the present moment,—mark the improvement,—there are only four. He seems to have become habituated to them; and, like the miller, his slumber is never interrupted, except when the noise of the mill stops:—

"The majority of people in England are under the impression that in China there is at present but one rebellion,—that the Taipings are the only rebels. I would they were; but such is the state of decay into which the Government has been forced by the peculation and corruption of the mandarins under the ruling dynasty, that there are now no less than four distinct kinds of rebels; and revolt is rife in every province of that once prosperous empire. Besides the Taipings on the Lower Yang-tsze, there is a formidable band of revolutionists in the north-eastern province of Shau-tung; then there are the S'chuan rebels, or 'Tu-feh,' who seem restricted to that western province; and, as if it would not do to confine rebellion within narrow limits, there is an important insurrection of Chinese Mussulmans in Yu-nan."

We have heard more of the Taipings than any other rebels, because they have come unpleasantly near the free ports at which our own countrymen reside and our chief commercial interest in China centres. Moreover, the religious world, until the scales fell from its eyes, has been deluding itself that the tracts distributed on the coast had at length had the desired result,—that a great moral revolution had been wrought in the minds of a vast body of people ready to enforce their own convictions by an appeal to arms. But the bubble has burst. The Taipings now appear in all their hideousness; the more revolting to behold because they avail themselves of forms and expressions associated by us with all we hold sacred:—

"The originator of the movement, or rather the one known to us as such, is Hung-tsiu-suen, the present 'Tien-wang,' or Heavenly king. He was originally educated at a Protestant missionary school in the south of China. His son, now about fourteen, is known as the 'Junior Lord'; 'Kan-wang' is his cousin, and the only one who has free access to him. There are several other wangs (kings), but Kan-wang, specially mentioned in the following account, is the most enlightened, according to our ideas. Late advices represent him to have been degraded, it is supposed on account of his partiality to foreigners. The Rev. I. J. Roberts, the former teacher of Hung-tsiu-suen, lived among the Taipings since the latter part of 1860; and although he was favourably received and cared for in the capital, his efforts to restrain the

blasphemous tendency of the present religion of the Taipings proved unavailing, and he made his exit from Nanking on the 29th of last January. On that day he wrote a letter, which has appeared in the public press, in which he describes the murder of his boy, and the way in which he himself was treated by Kan-wang, acting under the orders of the arch-impostor. 'I then,' says Mr. Roberts, 'despaired of missionary success among them, or of any good coming out of the movement—religious, commercial, or political—and determined to leave them.'

Their present capital is Nanking, on the Yang-tsze; and they hold one of the provinces of Kiang-su and Chi-kiang, estimated at 60,000 square miles, and inhabited by 70,000,000 souls—a population nearly equal to that of one-third of Europe. Their "Heavenly king," Tien-wang, will never die, and when tired of sublunary affairs will be conveyed to "another place" by a dragon's car placed at his special disposal. He seems to legislate for his people in about the same fashion as Mohammed did of yore, or Brigham Young does to this hour, simply making known revelations obtained direct from heaven:—

"As a heretic, Tien-wang is the most incorrigible self-willed one I ever heard of. He has been talked to, written to, written at, memorialized, and addressed in all shapes and forms about the truths of Christianity, and he remains more stubborn than ever. Doses of orthodoxy have been carefully administered to him by foreign missionaries, but have not acted as was expected. Little doxologies and prayers have been furiously hurled at him, and he has swallowed them all. Dozens of Bibles have been presented to him without doing much good, although I believe he reads them. The opinions of the Fathers and of the Councils have been sent him, and he has learnt a lesson so pat that he will overwhelm the next clerical gentleman who enters the lists with him with the opinions of Cyril, Augustine and the other ancient fathers. He is most baffling in his arguments. The Pope would have had him burnt long ago. One day he yields a point, and then says his instructor is wrong. He finds new translations of the Bible, and none of our commentators would meet with his approval. He would spoil your best edition of Scott by scribbling his celestial opinions in red ink down the margin thereof. When everything else fails, he will tell you that he has been to heaven and you have not, and so 'shuts you up.' Then he takes theological fits, and tells his people all kinds of curious things. The other day he ordered his chiefs to take unto themselves more wives against his next birthday. 'Adam was right in the beginning to take one wife,' says he, 'but I know better now and tell you to take ten.' He is equal to the Son according to his older documents, but more recently he always makes the Father, Son, Himself, and the Young Lord all equal. He has dismissed the Third Person of the Trinity, after vainly endeavouring to incarnate it in the person of Tung-wang, the most bloodthirsty of all the kings."

It has been pointed out as a progressive element both in Taipingism and Mormonism, that its chiefs, by their pretended intimacy with the source of inspiration, are able to effect at any moment an entire change in the constitution of the communities they lead by the nose. But, as all history teaches us, that can only be so long as their system is growing; as soon as it begins to ossify, it is difficult to enforce belief in any doctrine fundamentally opposed to the whole fabric raised up. We entertain, therefore, no hope that Taipingism will ever become anything else than it really is: a banner around which the cut-throats, thieves and robbers congregate—the watchword of a party governing by terrorism, rapine and plunder, devastating every province invaded, and pouring out human blood like water. The few Christians—and there really seems to be a few among them—will stand no chance of making their voices

heard amongst such a rabble; and our only hope is that the utter incapacity for organization the Taipings have hitherto exhibited may prove their own ruin, and prevent their becoming the dominant power in China. The present Imperial Government seems to be unable to check them, or any other rebel force in the country. Indeed, the Imperial "braves" invariably finish the work of plunder which the Taipings and other robber hordes have commenced; and Capt. Blakiston gives curious instances of towns which had to protect themselves against the ill-treatment of the very troops sent for their special protection. Perhaps out of this general chaos some good may come. People, by having to form "vigilance committees" to be safe against both friend and foe, may ultimately be induced to regard politics as more intimately connected with their own welfare than the great mass of Chinamen are at present willing to allow. Things never could have come to such a pass if the people had exhibited less apathy in public life. It is no affair of theirs when mandarins, high and low, are paid to look after it. If there is to be a regeneration of China, it must be the work of the natives themselves; and no greater misfortune could happen to the country than the interference of any European power. Our notions of China are too much of the "willow pattern," and our ignorance of the vast empire is too great to justify our doing anything except establish an unrestricted intercourse. Free ingress and egress should be secured by all the fair means in our power, and we therefore rejoice that by the Treaty of Tien-tsin one of the great arteries of the "Flowery Land," the Yang-tsze river has at last been opened to the commerce of the world; and it is estimated by Sir Harry Parkes that in the present year trade to an amount of 10,000,000⁰ sterling will be done on it. Admiral Hope has pushed his way as far as the Tungting lake, above Hankow, the last free port opened to us, and dropped British consuls on all the principal towns on the banks of the river.

For the present we should probably know nothing more about the upper waters of this mighty river—"this Child of the Ocean," as the Chinese call it—if four gentlemen, taking advantage of a favourable clause in the Treaty of Tien-tsin, had not conceived the plan of penetrating through China and Tibet into North-Western India. It was entirely a private enterprise. Their party consisted of Lieut.-Col. H. A. Sarel, 17th Lancers; Capt. Blakiston, R.A.; Dr. Alfred Barton, and the Rev. S. Schereschewsky; to which four Sikhs and four Chinese were added. Availing themselves of Admiral Hope's expedition, their junk was towed as far as our naval squadron went; and parting company with it, they proceeded slowly, against the current, to I-chang. Everywhere the mandarins and people treated them with respect and civility, though nothing was known of the Treaty which the Imperial Government had pledged itself to promulgate. Our explorers strongly advocate the opening of I-chang as a free port, and assert that sea-going steamers may, without difficulty, ascend as far as that populous and thriving city. The alluvial plains of the coast were gradually exchanged for bolder and most beautiful scenery, high rocks and mountains, glens and gorges. Rapids became more and more frequent the further they ascended; and, except in the season when the melting of the snow in the mountains causes a great rise in the river, the upper waters of the Yang-tsze are not navigable for sea-going steamers above I-chang. Coal of superior quality and gold associated with mica were encountered and worked on the banks. One

of the objects of our party was shooting and amusement; but taking astronomical observations and geographical notes occupied them so much that they got but little sport, and as for amusement, there was none except what resulted from the ever-changing scenes of places and people.

We should bewilder our readers by enumerating the names of all the places visited; most of them sound as yet new and barbarous, but ere long they may—nay, from their importance, must—become as familiar to English ears as Pek'n, Canton or Hongkong. Besides wheat, barley, peas, beans, millet, melons and dye-plants, the Expedition found the opium poppy cultivated to a great extent; and as Abbé Huc, who traversed these parts, and in whom our author declares himself a firm believer, does not mention it, the question arises whether this species of agriculture has only grown up of late years, in violation of the law and in consequence of the rapid decay of the central government, or whether it has always existed. If the former should be the case, we may presume that the production of opium in China is still in its infancy, and that ere long the latter country will supply all the world with that drug, quite equal as the Chinese quality is to the best "Patna."

At Wan the junk of the expedition was visited by the Commander-in-Chief:—

"The general was invited to take the uppermost seat, which, in perfect accordance with Chinese etiquette, he refused to do, saying at least half-a-dozen times that he was unworthy; we knew that, but forced him at last to bring himself to an anchor; and the others followed suit according to their rank. A conversation was commenced in the orthodox manner by our demanding, through Mr. Schereschewsky and his secretary, what was his 'honourable age' ? and this was followed by a series of questions and answers on both sides, which bore upon no particular point. Some brandy was then served out, and our visitors were asked to partake of 'our execrable sam-shoo.' The old fellow seemed half afraid; but some of his staff took at once to it so kindly, that we thought they must at some time or another have seen the inside of the factories at Canton; and before the visit was over the quartermaster-general was certainly in a state that would only have been allowable in the very highest grades of our service. But the old general still held off; and it was not until he had been pressed repeatedly, and had seen us drink some of the liquor ourselves, that he got over his scruples. Unluckily, just at the moment that he was raising the cup—we had no glasses—with both hands, as is the custom in their polite society, to his lips, our officious commandant, the havildar, in a loud voice gave the word of command 'Port arms,' and the sentry obeyed by bringing his rifle smartly into the position ordered. Poor general!—the cup dropped from his hands, the contents went over his blue-silk dress, and one out of our three remaining tea-cups went to pieces on the floor. 'D—n the general,' I was going to say, but a recollection of the contents of a military publication, entitled 'Rules and Articles for the better Government of Her Majesty's Forces,' &c., restrained my mutinous spirit, and I only said, 'the brute!' consoling myself by the thought that the proverb must be right, and that it was only an instance of the 'many slips between cups and lips.' I turned to 'Quie-qui,' one of our Chinese boys, and made signs to him to bring another cup in as authoritative a way as possible, though I knew it was quite impossible for him to obey me; but in China there is nothing so important as keeping up appearances. However, the general being composed again after this shock to his nerves, proved not to be proud, and 'took a drain' out of his aide-de-camp's cup. After this he seemed to freshen up a little—some men do—to tell us a good deal about himself, and put to us several searching questions. He had come into this part of the

province to arrange the plan of a campaign against the 'Tu-feh,' or local rebels."

More interesting was the visit from some native Christians in these remote parts:—

"They appeared much affected at meeting with Christians of another nation, and really seemed to have some sparks of religion in them. There is little doubt that the Roman Catholics have done much more in China than the world gives them credit for, and from this place upwards we observed numerous Christians among the Chinese. They used to make themselves known to us by the sign of the Cross, and seemed always to look upon us in the light of superior beings. The number of Christians in the province of Sz'chuan is said to be about one hundred thousand. There are two bishops, and we had subsequently the pleasure of meeting one of them as well as two of his priests, and my remembrance of them will ever be associated with the idea of missionaries indeed. To such men as these, who leave their country and friends with the sole object of carrying salvation to a heathen people, whose dress and habits they adopt, and among whom they live, often in a manner which would not be coveted by the very lowest among an European population, to say nothing of the risk of their lives, and the tortures of which they must ever stand in danger—cut off from all intercourse with the outer world, with none of the luxuries and few even of the necessities of European civilization—is due a meed of praise which I am unworthy to proclaim, and will therefore only refer to the contrast between them and the Protestant missionaries. Located among the European and American communities at the open ports on the coast, the latter live in all the ease and comfort of civilized society, surrounded by their wives and families, with dwellings equal, and often much superior, to what they have been accustomed to in their own country; they are in constant communication with all civilized parts of the world, by a regular mail service; and I believe I shall not be wrong when I say there is not a single Protestant missionary a hundred miles distant from an European settlement. I am informed, however, that some Protestant German missionaries are adopting the Roman Catholic plan, and intend to penetrate into the interior disguised as natives; but I have not had the pleasure of meeting any of them."

Higher up, at Chung-king, some of the Catholic missionaries were the means of saving the lives of the explorers, by giving timely warning of a plot laid against them by Imperial braves. They were to be murdered while partaking of the hospitality of the worthy missionaries. However, by judicious management and firmness they got over this difficulty. But as misfortune never comes alone, the Chung-king adventure was merely the prelude to more serious troubles that crowded on them on ascending. At Siu-chow the explorers came to a full stop, all seemed to be against them:—

"Now the question arose, if we wanted to get to Tibet, how were we to do it? It was very evident that Siu-chow was the sticking-point; if we were to get on, we must pass Siu-chow, and, what was more, we must get to Ching-tu, the capital of the province of Sz'chuan, for there resided the Viceroy of Sz'chuan and Tibet, without whose aid it was hardly possible to get through the country, it being to him that letters of credit, if I may so call them, had been sent concerning the Viceroy at Hankow. If we could not get any one to accompany us overland, then we must continue our progress by water. But how could we proceed by water if the boatmen refused to go? To force them was impossible. What was to be done? No one could answer the question. At last a happy idea struck one of the party, namely, that if we selected a small-sized junk, just sufficient to hold the necessary part of our baggage, we might manage to get such a boat up ourselves; and, putting things in the worst light, there were but two hundred miles intervening between us and the capital, and at most it could not take us over three weeks. Three weeks, then, of coolie work

would carry us through the difficulty; but, probably, when we once got among the rebels (if we ever saw them at all, which I very much doubted), they would be equally anxious to do day-labour for a certain amount of cash as any other Chinamen, and we might really have very little manual labour ourselves. With regard to danger from the rebels, it was urged that if they proved hostile, which was most unlikely, except with the view of plunder, we could always push off into the stream, and find our own way down again. The proposition was made one evening, and the vote was to be taken next morning at breakfast. Perhaps the less I say on this subject the better; I might be led away to say more than I wish. It will suffice to state that the heat of the weather, incapacity for hard work, the impossibility of the scheme, and, what seems only just then to have dawned on some minds, the loss of valuable time during a winter which would certainly have had to be spent to the north of the Himalayas, were urged against the proposition; the black ball was cast."

By a good deal of coaxing, and for an exorbitant sum, their old Chinese skipper agreed to take them as far as Ping-shan, which is the most westerly point they gained, and the geographical position of which was determined to be in lat. 20° 40' north, and long. 104° 25' west of Greenwich,—1,500 geographical miles from the mouth of the river. The Governor of Ping-shan agreed to supply them with ponies and other requirements for an overland journey to Ching-tu; but the disturbed state of the whole province of Sz'chuan, and the hourly-expected attack on Ping-shan itself by rebels, rendered it impossible for them to proceed.

A faint hope still entertained of being able to penetrate by some other route into Tibet had also to be relinquished; and nothing remained save to return to the coast, after exploring 1,500 geographical miles of one of the largest rivers in the world. Excepting a few Catholic missionaries in disguise, they were the first Europeans who had penetrated so far in the almost unknown interior of China. It was a noble enterprise, and one that confers the greatest credit on all who participated in it. The author, like a wise man, refrains from generalizing, and simply furnishes details of what he and his companions heard and saw. It is pleasing to find that our old maps of the mighty river, bequeathed by the industry of the Jesuits, are much more correct than modern science was prepared to expect, and many of their positions were corroborated by the astronomical observations which the Yang-tsze Expedition was enabled to make. Except a few ferns, shells and birds, no collections were formed; and geography is, therefore, the chief gainer in this instance. We think Capt. Blakiston has performed his duty as historian of the Expedition with skill and good faith; and his companions will have every reason to be thankful for the manner in which he has put the result of their united labours before the public.

The Two Catherine; or, Which is the Heroine?
2 vols. (Macmillan & Co.)

THIS book is written with a view to being considered an historical romance. The plot is laid in the last century, and begins with a highly-finished account of a gentleman-farmer, his wife and his two servants. One day the scene is enlivened by the arrival of a basket containing two children, which has been found in the barn. Mr. Noble, the farmer, being childless, would have gladly kept the children, and adopted them as his own; but Mrs. Noble objects decidedly, and being very much the head of the house she gets her own way, and the little foundlings are carried off to the workhouse.

Some years after—having become tired of her dogs and cats—Mrs. Noble relents, and

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allows her husband to have his own way, and bring home the two children. Little Peter Foster (as he was named by a slip of paper attached to his arm) was nothing loth to return to Chorley Hall and be treated as a gentleman; but his twin-sister, Catherine, had disappeared: a lady from London had claimed her as a niece, and carried her off with her, and no clue could be found to her present abode. So, contenting themselves with the charge of little Peter, the Nobles are rewarded for their charity in due course of time by receiving a letter from some London lawyers, stating that an old Mr. Foster had died in the West Indies, and left the whole of his property to be divided between the two children. The father and mother, after leaving their offspring in Mr. Noble's barn (knowing his benevolence and his wife's love of pets), had, it seemed, proceeded to the West Indies to visit their brother (the testator), and had both died there of fever, telling him what they had done with their children, and begging him to take them under his protection. This the old man neglected to do; and his conscience reproaching him on his deathbed for his hardness of heart, he had tried to make amends to his youthful relatives by leaving them his co-heirs.

About the identity of Peter there could be no possible difficulty, and the young man was despatched to London to see the lawyers, claim the property, and seek for his sister. He travels by coach, and on his road passes through Litchfield, where who should get in, with some trouble and squeezing, but the great Dr. Johnson himself—Topham Beauclerk being an outside passenger! A little further on their journey the coach is attacked by highwaymen, and Dr. Johnson, Beauclerk and Peter fight vigorously, defeat the robbers, and young Foster has the honour of being wounded. After partaking of a hearty supper at the next inn, the great lexicographer calls for warm water and ointment, and himself dresses the lad's wound; and Topham Beauclerk, "rejecting the coarse linen at hand, drew out his own fine cambric handkerchief" to bind round Peter's arm.

Peter's next adventure is meeting with a very rascally young Irishman, who takes him under his protection and shows him the lions of the metropolis, first providing him with lodgings under the same roof with Oliver Goldsmith. A few nights afterwards, being at Vauxhall, Peter has the happiness of lending his fellow-lodger the coin to pay for his supper, and he consequently becomes intimate with the illustrious man, is asked to dinner, meets Johnson again—to say nothing of Hogarth, Reynolds, Garrick and other celebrities of the day, who are very accurately described, and who hold long conversations together, and are avowedly bored by the presence of our hero. Peter having confided to his Irish friend Patrick Lynch his errand in London, is the dupe of a base conspiracy. Pat being engaged to a young seamstress, named Catherine Augarde, persuades her, by alternate threats and caresses, to personate the lost Catherine Foster, and to claim the right of being Peter's sister, and heiress to half the property. Peter, being a simple youth, is easily taken in, and makes Catherine Augarde a handsome allowance to live upon till her rights shall be established. The most important documents, however, are still missing, and Peter's real sister, a poor milliner's apprentice, is cheated out of her bundle containing the missing papers, which she owns as the true Catherine Foster. Patrick, to get her out of the way, gives her a false guinea to get changed for him. She is taken up for passing bad money, tried and sent to prison, and, upon being ultimately released, wanders about London, till, in a fit of despair, she determines to

throw herself into the river. At this moment, however, she falls into the friendly arms of Oliver Goldsmith, who carries her home and doctors her himself: and here, of course, she meets with her brother Peter, and tells her story, and so gains her rights at last. The fortune is rescued from the false Catherine, who, being therewith deserted by her accomplice, goes mad, is taken down to Chorley Hall, and tenderly nursed by her generous rival for the rest of her life. So ends the history of 'The Two Catherines.' As to "which is the heroine," the reader is at liberty to take his choice. The wicked Catherine stands in the more prominent position of the two; of the real heiress we hear little.

A History of the Romans under the Empire.

By Charles Merivale, B.D. Vol. VII. (Longman & Co.)

Mr. Merivale has modified his original plan: his History terminates with the death of Aurelius, the point at which Gibbon commences his magnificent narrative. Of Mr. Merivale's merits as an historian we have expressed generally our opinion. The student will find in the present volume the scholarship, power and impartiality which characterized the previous volumes. The period treated of is less important and less attractive than when Mr. Merivale unfolded to us the gorgeous panorama of the early days of Imperial Rome—the days of its grandeur, of its strength and of its conquests,—whilst the lurid and terrible glare surrounding the Tiberian and Neronian Principates only served to heighten the power and enhance the fascination of the picture. We now enter on a period of comparative calm and tranquillity; the reigns of the good emperors, as they are called, have commenced, and exciting events no longer follow each other with breathless rapidity. The enthusiasm which attended the first conquests of the Empire and the intoxicating dream of universal sovereignty are passing away, and, in obedience to an inevitable law, the age of re-action has commenced. The materials, too, at the command of the historian of the Flavian dynasty are alike scanty and unreliable, and it requires the utmost tact to eliminate the truth from amidst the mass of error and prejudice. Mr. Merivale has appreciated the depth of the Flavian re-action, and he has done justice to the memory of those emperors who, under its influence, made a last effort to check Rome's downward course. From amongst a nation of exhausted voluptuaries, a people corrupt and emasculate, there unexpectedly arose a monarch whose stern virtues recalled to memory the brightest days of the old Republic,—homely in manners as in appearance, prudent and economical, but not parsimonious, with much of the rustic simplicity of his Sabine ancestors still clinging to him, far more a soldier than a statesman, a man with one great object ever in view—to revive the traditions of the ancient faith and of the ancient discipline, and to infuse something of manliness and vigour into his degenerate and decrepit subjects. The reformer was at least partially successful; and the change in Roman habits and manners, of which we find evident tokens under the emperors of the Flavian House, may in a great measure be traced to the precepts and example of Vespasian. Of this marked social revolution Mr. Merivale thus speaks:—

"The temper of the Romans had undergone a great and sudden change. The voluptuous luxury of the early Empire had reached its climax under Nero, and the nation was suffering from the effects of indulgence. It was sick at heart, debilitated and remorseful. The rash attempt to follow their sovereign in the race of extravagance had over-

whelmed the fortunes of his wealthiest courtiers; his tyranny had crushed the most powerful nobles; the conflagration of the city had destroyed the palaces and accumulated treasures of many of the chief families; disturbance in the provinces had dried up the sources of opulence, which had been wont to flow with unbroken current to Rome and Italy. The vulgar magnificence of upstart freedmen had outraged the national dignity, and put prodigality out of fashion. When Vespasian, by his firmness in redressing extortion abroad, and his vigilance in checking peculation at home, enforced the moderation recommended by his own conspicuous example, he found his subjects well inclined to hail the new era, and accept with satisfaction the restrictions he might place on display and expenditure. Possibly, indeed, the futility of sumptuary enactments had been discovered; but while the inquisitions of the *Ediles* had proved always ineffectual, the turn given to social manners by the habits of the Court seems to have been both immediate and lasting. For a hundred years, says Tacitus, from the battle of Actium to the reign of Galba, the refinements of the table, the coarsest and most pervading form of luxury among the Romans, had flourished rankly: but though there continued, no doubt, to occur many instances of gross and profuse living, the period of the worst extravagance now passed away, never to return in its pristine licentiousness. One happy effect of the late bloody conflicts was the introduction of many new men of provincial families into the magistracy and Senate; and these offshoots of a ruder stock retained, even with their enhanced fortunes, much of the simplicity of their ancient manners. We may remark from this time much greater moderation in the tone of Roman literature, and generally more decorum of thought and language, than in the age preceding. The people seem to have become suddenly sobered. Their most cherished illusions had been dispelled by suffering. We meet with little now of the turgid declamation, of which we have heard so much, on the grandeur of Rome, the immensity of her conquests, the eternity of her dominion. Henceforth, instead of flaunting contrasts between the fortune of the Empire and the meanness of all foreign nations, we shall find the greater happiness and virtue of the simple barbarians insinuated, or even asserted. Arms are no longer exalted as the legitimate career of the citizen. Wealth is not ostentatiously worshipped as the highest object of desire. Luxury, and the vices which attend it, are denounced as sins, not merely mocked as vulgar affectations. Obedience is held not less honourable than command; domestic habits and virtues are regarded with pleasure and esteem. On the other hand,—such is the point at which the highest philosophy has arrived,—the true Divinity consists, according to Pliny, in rendering aid as a mortal to fellow-mortals. This is recognized, at least among the most intelligent, as the actual origin of mythological romance; and such as this is the godlike career of the august Vespasian, the greatest of all rulers in every age and realm, who sustains with his sons' assistance the tottering fabric of society. This is the career of immortal glory, the only immortality, as the writer plainly intimates, to which man can hope to attain, however natural and pious the custom of ascribing a divine eternity to the great benefactors of their species. Even the Court poets were awed to measured decency by the quiet sentiment of the nation. The panegyric of Vespasian by Silius Italicus, the ape of Virgil, is modelled upon that of *Augustus Caesar, the offspring of the Gods*; but it hardly yields in dignity to one of the finest passages of the *Aeneid*, while it repudiates its most vicious audacities."

We have been accustomed from our childhood to look with horror on the memory of Domitian, and to regard the fifteen years during which he wore the purple as a perpetual reign of terror, the one dark interval of tyranny amidst the happy reigns of the good emperors. Niebuhr vindicated Domitian from some of the charges made against him; Mr. Merivale follows in the same path, and from the materials supplied by him we are enabled to afford a tolerably just conception of this

emperor's curious and mixed character. Still, we think our author scarcely pays sufficient attention to the absolute unreliability of all our sources of information in regard to Domitian. "It is by senators, or by the clients of senators, that our history has been entirely written," says Mr. Merivale towards the close of the volume; and in this short sentence is to be found the clue to the inextinguishable hatred exhibited towards this emperor by the annalists of his own time. In one respect Domitian abandoned the hereditary policy of the Flavian race. His predecessors had flattered and caressed the Senate; and whilst carefully preserving all real power in their own hands, they were willing to pay a nominal court to the body still supposed by constitutional tradition to wield an important share of the sovereign authority. For this corrupt and feeble oligarchy, thus living on its ancient reputation and on the influence which an august historic name long carries with it, Domitian felt and showed little respect. While he did his utmost to win the approbation and affection of the people, his morose and cynical temper displayed itself in the contemptuous aversion which he never failed to exhibit towards the illustrious body of which he was supposed to be a member. A stern disciplinarian as well by temperament as by education, he had no sympathy for a turbulent yet powerless aristocracy; "an able and discreet governor of provinces" (to use Mr. Merivale's words), he heartily despised a clique of men who thought that the Roman Empire was concentrated in themselves, and who clung tenaciously to a policy of conquest long after they had given proofs of their inability to conquer at all. No wonder, under these circumstances, that the haughty noble should come into constant collision with the mocking prince, and that a history of the latter written by the former or his dependents should contain little praise. Tacitus, our chief historical guide at this period, is, however, doubly untrustworthy; for not only had the Emperor offended his class, but also, as he believed, his family, and he never forgot for a moment that he was both a Roman senator and the son-in-law of Agricola. Nevertheless, if we take even the materials provided for us by so prejudiced a witness, we shall find that Domitian, however hateful his character in some respects may have been, was in truth a very different man from that which we have been educated to believe. In an age of transition, while he was compelled to please the people by a liberal patronage of the savage and barbarous games of the Amphitheatre, he earnestly endeavoured to introduce, and to a certain extent succeeded in introducing and making popular, more humane and elegant amusements, in the shape of those quinquennial contests in poetry, eloquence and music for which Greece had once been famous. "These periodical contests of the *Agon Capitolinus*," as Mr. Merivale eloquently remarks, "continued without interruption down to the fifth century; the solemn consecration to the Muses of a spot known for so many ages only as the stronghold of national force, sank deep into the minds of successive generations. The temple and the citadel have vanished in storm and fire, and even their sites have become the battle-field of antiquaries; but it was on the Capitoline Hill that the song of Petrarch was crowned in history, and the song of Corinna in romance." A man himself of many and various accomplishments, a lover and a cultivator of literature, Domitian extended substantial patronage to the most distinguished men of letters of the day. He conferred on Quintilian the ornaments of the Consulship; he was the friend and patron of Statius and of Martial, and it

was to the man whose character they have so bitterly attacked that Tacitus and Pliny owed their early advancement in life. Of the moral reformation effected by Domitian we shall allow Mr. Merivale himself to speak:—

"The reign of Domitian was an epoch of administrative re-action such as repeatedly occurred in the history both of the Republic and the Empire when an attempt was made, or at least affected, to recall society to ancient principles and ideas. There is something striking in these repeated struggles of the state conscience, something even affecting in the anxiety evinced by so many of the Emperors, by some who were personally among the most selfish and vicious of them, for the amendment of public morals and the restoration of a golden age of virtuous simplicity. It was the general tendency of Paganism to look backward rather than forward; and the Emperors, as protectors and patrons of the religious sentiment among their people, which had no hope for the future, instinctively directed its regretful yearnings towards the past. Domitian was, moreover, a disciplinarian by birth and breeding. The early household training of the Roman citizen still made itself felt in his temper and bearing, however surprising might be the revolution in the circumstances of his family. The antique severity of Sabellia had been celebrated from primitive times: Vespasian had retained on the throne of the world the homely manners of his rude stock. The sons, especially the younger, while they cast off the manners, retained in no slight degree the traditions and prejudices of their fathers. Domitian was not deterred by any sense of his own vices from the attempt to reform the morals of his countrymen. He had forfeited none of the Sabine faith in temperance and chastity by his personal indulgence in the grossest excesses. Less subtle than Augustus, less an imitator than Claudius, his projects of revival sprang from more genuine impulse from his own heart than those of either of his predecessors. He had no need of the sanctimonious pretensions which cast on Augustus the taint, or at least the suspicion, of hypocrisy. The Empire which the first Princeps founded on a moral sentiment was now firmly fixed, and the citizens had learnt to acquiesce in the decay of manners as the law of their destiny. Domitian's attempts at reform were unquestionably sincere; he had no political interest to serve by alarming the national conscience; but his measures sprang from a morbid taste for petty discipline. Nor was his rigid religionism the bastard product of a seared heart and a troubled conscience; it was not the despairing effort of the startled sinner to slake the furies of remorse by a bloody propitiation. It was rather a mixture of vanity and fanaticism engendered by the prophecies and portents which had heralded the elevation of his house, and by the fortune which had saved him in the crisis of a godless anarchy, and made him the instrument for restoring the patrons of Rome to their august abodes."

While we thus do justice to the good qualities which really characterized Domitian, we disclaim any desire to attempt what, in popular phraseology, would be called a rehabilitation of his character. Towards the close of his reign, his temper, ever gloomy and morose, made him a prey to all the tortures of suspicion and jealousy. The unsuccessful revolt of Antonius served to increase the distrust and aversion with which he had ever viewed the senatorial body. The infamous race of delators were again let loose, an active proscription followed, and Maternus, Pomponianus, Lucullus, Flavius Sabinus, and several of their most eminent colleagues were the victims.

Nerva and Trajan both carefully shunned the rock on which Domitian had split; and while the latter was adored by the army, which he had led so gloriously from victory to victory, he never forgot, at the same time, to court the favour of the Senate, and carefully abstained from arousing its ever-sensitive jealousy. The Flavian age, as Mr. Merivale truly observes,

is remarkable not only for a social, but for a literary revolution. The repose which characterized the general course of the political affairs of this era showed itself also in its literature. There is an absence of the force and energy, but also of the extravagance, which marked the Claudian age; the compositions, if tamer, are more polished and correct; and if there be less genius, there is certainly more sound sense.

Of the events of the Antonine reigns Mr. Merivale gives us a rapid sketch in the latter part of the volume, introducing also, at the end of the sixty-seventh chapter, an excellent *résumé* of the actual state of the different political elements of Rome in the time of Aurelius. The tranquil repose which characterizes the Antonine era was only on the surface. Beneath this treacherous calm the elements of decay and dissolution were actively at work, the cohesive force which had hitherto held together the scattered members of the vast empire was giving way,—vitality was departing from the centre of the Imperial system, and the policy of unity, which had made Rome mistress of the world, was rapidly passing from her, and becoming the creed and policy of the once-despised Barbarian. The increase of slavery, the universality of the crime of infanticide in certain cases, and the terrible ravages of pestilence, all aided in causing that decline of the population over which the poets and satirists of this period mourn. It was, in truth, an age essentially of physical and moral decay; and after the death of Aurelius, where Mr. Merivale's narrative terminates, Rome's downward path was trodden with a yearly-increasing velocity.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Science of Memory Simplified and Explained. By J. H. Bacon. (Bateman.)—This is an artificial memory book, the product of our age of cramming. It has a letter-for-figure system, like that of Grey, which may be useful in remembering dates; the plan of distributing the things to be remembered about the parts of a room; and the method of similar sounds; the latter two in as great perfection of absurdity as any one would desire. Many years ago we reviewed a book which proposed to remember that *hasta* is a spear by the advice not to be too *hasty* with a spear. As a specimen of the work before us, we quote the way of remembering the inflexions in *anamus*, *amatis*, *amant*. They are *mus-tis-nt* which sounds like "Miss! 'tis aunt," and this is to be the key. O most forgetful man of memory! would not "*must isn't* for little boys," as the nurses say, have been the very thing, and moral into the bargain? What if a poor lad had blundered the key in the matter of genders? How would *anamaster*, *amatis*, *amauncle*, have looked, as parts of a Latin verb? It may be fifty years since the following story was told us by an old lady as one of the tales of her youth:—A lad was sent with bottle of tar to Paternoster Row: he could not remember the name. "Stupid fellow," said his master, "think of *pate*, *tar*, *nose*, *tar*." Hours afterwards the poor lad was astonishing the shopkeepers in Cheapside by asking the way to *Skull-bottle-snout-bottle* Row! We recommend our readers to keep clear of every artificial memory, except that of dates by letters: and we doubt whether even this is worth the trouble. Never learn memory; let it follow from attention.—A person to whom dates are essential upon occasions which will not allow of reference to books, will soon acquire a power of memory which will suffice for all his wants, by merely accustoming his mind to retain figures. And this with better success than by any artificial system. In all these systems there is something to remember: and surely 1754 is as easy to remember as Grey's *apef*, or whatever his word is.

The Book of Garden Management. (Beeton.)—This is a thick volume of 760 closely-printed pages, evidently an imitation of Loudon's Encyclopedias. It treats of all manner of garden operations, both

ornamental and useful, including Bees, and is illustrated by a considerable number of good wood engravings. The name of the author is withheld,—why, we know not, for the book is a good book, well arranged, carefully written, and certainly not to be ashamed of. On the contrary, a rather long examination justifies our describing it as a very useful horticultural manual.

The Metropolis Local Management Act, 1862. With Notes and an Index. (Virtue & Co.)—If a want of vigour continues to be the chief characteristic of our local management, and the well-worn phrase "They do these things better in France" is still applicable to our metropolis, it is not from any lack of authority in our local parliaments. The Local Management Act, which was passed about seven years ago, has just received its third amendment in the Act, consisting of 117 sections, which is before us. The original Act and the amendments have conferred large powers upon our local boards; and it is really surprising to find how extensive their authority now is, and how little jealousy, or even observation, the Acts which confer this authority have excited in Parliament. The principal object of the present Act is to facilitate the great work of main drainage; but a large number of miscellaneous powers and provisions are thrown in, with that peculiar contempt for order and arrangement for which our statutes are celebrated. The chief feature of the little book before us is that of the three things mentioned on the title-page, it contains only one. The Act is there; but the only notes are the inevitable marginal notes; and there is no Index, unless, indeed, the collection of the marginal notes at the commencement of the work may be called one.

Researches in Newer Pliocene and Post-Tertiary Geology. By James Smith, Esq. (Glasgow, Gray.)

This volume comprehends reprints, with Appendices, of a series of papers on the more recent geological deposits, the result of upwards of thirty years' observation by a gentleman whom all geologists respect, and whose name stands amongst the veterans of the science. Being reprints, we say no more of the papers; but two of the Appendices, which apparently are not reprints, may claim notice. One is an elaborate paper, by Mr. Buchanan, of Glasgow, on the ancient canoes found in and around that city, and clearly establishes the fact that great changes of level must have taken place during the human period. No less than eighteen of these canoes have been found at various times, the last, and the largest of them all, having been discovered in 1854.

Tales of the Gods and Heroes. By the Rev. George W. Cox, M.A., late Scholar of Trinity College, Oxford. With Illustrations on Wood from Designs by the Author. (Longman & Co.)—This scholarly little volume, by a writer who has already taught English children to feel a personal interest in the stories of Greek mythology and ancient history, consists of an Introductory Essay, addressed to educated parents, and of thirty tales of Gods and Heroes, written for the delight and instruction of the young. Both portions of the work are equally deserving of high praise. The essay proves Mr. Cox to be a thoughtful and accurate student of classic literature; and the stories are told with beautiful simplicity of style, and nice discernment of the intellectual and moral characteristics of children. An author, who has done so much for the school-room, ought now to work for the library.

In reply to our remarks upon Mr. Laurie's sheets for teaching children to read, the author of *How to Teach Reading*, by a Father (Cundall), has sent us his little book, published twelve years ago, to show that Mr. Laurie's method of teaching reading by combinations of several letters rather than by single letters is not new, and to remove our doubts as to the advantage of the method. We did not require any proof that Mr. Laurie is not the first to recommend this plan, for that must be well known; and we confess, even after reading what the present writer has to say, that our doubts are not removed. This writer differs from Mr. Laurie in recommending the use of short words, such as *dog*, *cat*, instead of syllables merely. He proposes to teach a child to read these words by placing them

before him, and at the same time pointing to the object. Now we contend that, even if the child had nothing more to learn than to read, this is a very imperfect way of teaching. There are many words which have no visible representative; and no child will pay sufficiently minute attention to be able to distinguish similar words, unless his attention is called to every separate letter composing them. He himself mentions the case of an intelligent child who confounded even such dissimilar words as *lamb* and *hand* for six months. We wonder such a fact did not shake his faith in his system. To our mind it is conclusive against it. But surely the child should be able to spell, as well as read; otherwise, how is he ever to write correctly? And, considering the irregularities in our language, we think the old-fashioned mode of teaching to read alphabetically, in conjunction with spelling, is the most effectual, though it be not so easy and interesting as others. The argument that the naming of the letters which compose a word does not easily suggest the pronunciation, amounts to very little. Carried out to its full length, it would lead to the adoption of the phonetic system of writing, which is on various grounds discarded. The names of the letters may not be the best that might have been chosen, but they answer practical purposes so far as to render change undesirable. The author of this work seems to think reading the be-all and end-all of human existence; for, at the rate he proposes to proceed with a child, it would take a lifetime to learn the art,—at least, that is the impression conveyed to our mind by his directions.

We have received three volumes of a cheap and useful series of classics:—*Σοφοκλεώς Αντιγόνη*—*The Antigone of Sophocles*, with Notes, Critical and Explanatory, adapted to the Use of Schools and Universities, by the Rev. J. Milner, B.A. (Virtue).—*Αἰσχυλοῦ Προμηθεὺς Βαντός*—*The Prometheus Bound of Aeschylus, from the Text of Dindorf's Third Edition*, edited, with English Notes, Critical and Explanatory, by the Rev. J. Davies, M.A. (Virtue).—and *Τέχεβαντας καὶ Μεδεάς Εὐριπίδης*, chiefly from the Text of Dindorf, with English Notes, Critical and Explanatory, for the Use of Schools, by W. Brownrigg Smith, M.A. (Virtue). The editors have availed themselves of the best extant works and other sources of information in the formation of their text and the preparation of their notes. Those upon the Antigone are very copious, and remarkable as having been written on board ship.—We have also two Eton Latin books: *Selections from the Metamorphoses of Ovid*, with English Notes, by the Rev. W. B. Marriott, B.C.L. (Williams);—and *Eton Selections from Ovid and Tibullus (Selecta ex Ovidio et Tibullo)*, by W. G. Cookesley, A.M. (Williams). The notes to the former are more numerous and extended than those in the latter volume, and have the advantage of being suggestive as well as instructive. They are rendered all the more interesting and valuable by frequent comparisons of Latin words with their modern derivatives in the Italian, French and Spanish languages.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Adcock's Engineers' Pocket Book, 1863, 12mo. 6/- roan. Arms and Ends, a Novel, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31/- cl. Amicable Correspondence Relative to Some Popular Tenets, as held by the United Church of England and Ireland, 8vo. 4/- cl. Andersen's New Tales from the German, trans. fe. 8vo. 2/- cl. Beaver's Adventures of Dick Onslow among the Red-Skins, 3/- cl. Day's Dry Goods, 12mo. 1/- cl. Bonar's Hymns of Faith and Hope, new edit. 2s. 6d. 5/- cl. Book of Family Crests, 10th edit. enlarged, 2 vols. 12mo. 24/- cl. Bopp's Comparative Grammar of Sanskrit, Greek, &c. 3rd edit. 42/- Brander and Taylor's Chemistry, fe. 8vo. 12/- cl. British and American Technical and Scientific Papers, 12mo. 15/- Calvin's Institutes, new trans. by Beveridge, 2 vols. 14/- cl. Cheyne's Elementary Treatise on the Planetary Theory, cr. 8vo. 6/- Coleridge's S. T. Poems, new edit. 12mo. 2/- cl. Cooper's Stories of Woods, or Adventures in Leather-Stocking, 5/- Cowper's Tales from Scarcroft, at Ashey, in Nison's Chapel, 5/- Cummins's El Fureidis, or the Happy Valley, new edit. 5/- Denton's Servia and the Servians, cr. 8vo. 9/- cl. Dorner's Doctrine of Person of Christ, Div. 2, V. 2. tr. Simon, 10/- Drayton's Tales of the Country, 12mo. 15/- cl. Emerson's London, How the Great City Grew, fe. 8vo. 2/- cl. Gleig's School Series, Hunter's Treatise on Logarithms, 12mo. 1/- Grant's Thoughts of a Country Parson, cr. 8vo. 3/- cl. History of Great Britain, Vol. I, Pts. 1 & 2, roy. 10/- each, cl. Homer's Iliad, Books 9 & 18, literally trans. by Bateman, 1/- svd. Illustrated Catalogue of Exhibition, Industrial Department, 21/- Kington's History of Patrick II., Emperor of the Romans, 32/- Leland's Commentaries on the Roman Antiquities, 2d. Mark, 10/- Lever's Davenport Dunn, new edit. 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 5/- cl. Lever's Fortunes of Glencore, new edit. cr. 8vo. 4/- cl.

Lever's One of Them, new edit. cr. 8vo. 4/- cl. Liancourt's Pleasant French Hours for my Young Friends, 2/ cl. Macmillan's Foreign and Indian, 12mo. 2/- cl. March's Flower and Fruit Decoration, 8vo. 3/- bds. Marsden's Influence of Mosaic Code on Subsequent Legislation, 10/- Mercantile Moral, a Book for Young Men, new edit. fe. 8vo. 3/- cl. Miller's Life and Reign of King Edward, 10th edit. 2/- cl. Order of Administration of the Lord's Supper, 2d. 1/- cl. Peter Parley, Story of Life of, ed. by Freeman, fe. 8vo. 5/- cl. Pictures and Knowledge, by Uncle Know-All, 4to. 1/- bds. Power's "I Will" of the Psalms, new edit. cr. 8vo. 5/- cl. Ralph Saunders, or the School-boy Friend, new edit. fe. 8vo. 2/- cl. Ramsay's Manual of Roman Antiquities, 5th edit. cr. 8vo. 8/- cl. Routledge's Hedge-Podge, Medley of Poetry, Stories, &c., fe. 8vo. 1/- Seisms' (Robert) Poems, 12mo. 5/- cl. Smith's (John) Plinian Phoenicia, &c. post 8vo. 6/- cl. Statutes at Large, 25 & 26 Vict., 1862, 8vo. 21/- bds. Story of Jack and the Giant, illust. new edit. cr. 8vo. 2/- cl. Sugden's Law Vendors and Purchasers, 14th ed. royal 8vo. 35/- cl. French's English, Past and Present, 5th edit. revised, fe. 8vo. 4/- cl. Post 8vo. 10/- Winsor's Symphony of Christ with Man, new edit. fe. 8vo. 8/- cl. Worms's The Earth and its Mechanism, 8vo. 16/- cl.

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TRIGONOMETRY AND THE SLIDING RULE.

A learned Correspondent, who signs "J. W. S. Jersey," has sent us some information on a point mentioned in our recent review of the Macclesfield Letters, which we receive with thanks; and a criticism on another point which we criticize in return—also with thanks. He informs us that the words sine, cosine, &c. were abbreviated in Norwood's 'Trigonometrie,' 1831, twenty-six years before Oughtred's. On examining a later edition, which we have no doubt agrees with the first, we find this to be correct: Norwood introduces s for sine, c for cosine, &c. into algebraical formulae, to the full extent to which he uses formulae at all. Our Correspondent then states that Thomas Simpson used abbreviated words in his 'Essays,' 1740. Not in formulae: in describing his 'practical rules' he used such shortened words as 'log-sin.elong.' &c. opposite to his items of calculation. But in the algebraical part of his work we find x for the sine of an angle, y for its cosine; and so on. If Simpson had any claim, many predecessors would have a better claim, being all who have abbreviated the words in the headings of their tables. We find nothing to the true purpose from Simpson before 1757, being six years after he had seen Clairaut's work, in which the algebraical use of the shortened words appears throughout. Euler nibbled at the abbreviations in 1729, used them with increasing frequency from thence until 1744, in which year he published a large work on the planetary theory which is full of them.

Our Correspondent then objects to our notice of the invention of the sliding rule. This he gives to Gunter, not to Oughtred, on the authority of Hutton, and of a quotation from Oughtred's 'Apologetical Epistle' made by Ward. About Hutton we say nothing, except that we know him to be very inaccurate—we mean omission inaccurately—on the history of the sliding rule. But as the mistake is often made, we set it right in as few words as we can.

Gunter, as is well known, was the first who laid down a logarithmic scale on a ruler, most likely before 1620. To this scale he applied compasses: as a boy in the Navy does to this day—or did till very lately,—when he uses his Gunter's scale. Oughtred put two scales side by side, and made one slide along the other: he also put two scales on two concentric circles, and made one circle revolve. Some one else, we know not exactly who, put the second ruler into a groove, to keep it from slipping. Oughtred set very little value on mechanical tricks and practices, as he called them. In his apologetical epistle against Delamain, who would have taken the invention of the circles to himself, he writes as follows. The first sentence is quoted by Ward, who is writing Gunter's biography: if our Correspondent had been able to refer to the original, he would have seen, as he shall now see, how the matter stands. We give the worthy old Etonian in his own quaint phrase and ancient spelling.

And what doth this new Instrument call it the Circles of

Proportion, or call it the Ring, or what other name you list) ought else, but only baffle and infest Master Gunter's *line-or-Ruler*. The manner how I fell upon it was thus. I have in my study and practice of the Mathematics been not a little convenient in calculation. And that I might both facilitate the labour and try the worke: I invented many sortes and compendiations in logistics, for the one; and framed divers kinds of Instruments and mechanical practices, for the other: that when I should find the performance in both wryes not to disagree, I might be assured of my just diligence in numerical computation. Among other Instruments I much liked the same Line or Euler: only this defect I found that it required many times too great a pair of Compasses, which would be hard to open, apt to slip, and troublesome for use. I therefore first devised to have another Ruler with the former: and so by setting and applying one to the other, I did not only take away the use of Compasses, but also made the worke much more easy and expedite: when I should not at all need the motion of my hand, but only the glancing of my sight: and with one position of the Rulers, and view of mine eye, see not one only, but the manifold proportions incident unto the question intended.

All this is confirmed by W. Forster, who in 1630, upon Oughtred's showing him rulers and circles which we had had by him "these many years," and many Latin notes upon their use, obtained permission to publish a translation of these notes, which he did under the title of "Circles of Proportion," in 1632. It is right we should state that, in some subsequent editions, Forster's Preface, which contains all these facts, is omitted. And now, though Norwood has occupied the post of first abbreviator of trigonometrical terms in algebra, from and since the commencement of our article, he must be deposed, and Oughtred must be re-installed. For these notes, many years older than 1630, contain all the abbreviations, as fully used as in the "Trigonometrie" of 1657.

We may say a word, in all good humour, to more Correspondents than one. We smile when we are told that if we will take the trouble to look at Hutton's Dictionary, we shall see that Gunter did so and so. It is most obvious that we see no such thing; we only see that Hutton says so. We smile again when we are told to look at a second-hand authority—that is, no authority at all—in terms which imply that we need to be directed to look at authorities. More years ago than we let out we began to examine Hutton, to test his place as a writer of mathematical history: and we soon found that, though often drawing from first-rate sources, he often contented himself with derived statements of a very unauthoritative character, and not infrequently had recourse to paste and scissars. In the matter of Oughtred it was clear that he had never even looked at the "Biographia Britannica," a work which any one should have consulted, especially for references. But we must smile when remembering that the advice we receive to use Hutton as voucher for Gunter and Ward as voucher for Oughtred, has reference to our article on the Macclesfield Letters. We went carefully through that article, and we find that every statement is taken from the first authority to which access can be had, with one exception. Not having any official document by which to ascertain what see was held by Dr. Jordan Rigaud, we were obliged to be content with the statement of one of his surviving brothers!

HAMILTONIAN LOGIC.

London, Nov. 3, 1862.

Mr. Baynes has not given a definite answer. He says Hamilton employed some in the "sense it usually bears" in logic; and that when he said "some are," he meant "some are," not "some are not." Now, Hamilton had two meanings in his written papers ("Logic," vol. ii. p. 281): one, "promulgated by Aristotle"; the other, "which I [Hamilton] would introduce." The question is, whether he adhered in his lectures to the view of Aristotle, or whether he introduced, either as a substitute or as an accompaniment, the view which he "would introduce."

Now, in the case of any other logician than Hamilton, it would be a very definite answer to say that when he said "some are," he did not mean "some are not." But Hamilton pronounced that the two ought to go together. For example ("Discussions," p. 618), "two particulars, in the affirmative and negative forms, ought to infer each other;" that is, "some are" ought to infer "some are not," and vice versa.

Mr. Baynes, writing without access to Hamilton's writings, may have forgotten for a moment how the matter there stands. It will be easy for him to say yes or no to the following question:—That "other" view, not Aristotle's, which Hamilton "would introduce," did he introduce it in the lectures delivered from his chair?

I shall weigh whatever Mr. Baynes may say upon Hamilton's writings, in reference to other points. But what I ask for is the answer to the question above, either in three letters or in two.

A. DE MORGAN.

THEOLOGICAL CRITICISM.

London, Nov. 6, 1862.

It is usually best to let the misinterpretations of critics pass in silence. When, however, they reach a certain extreme—when they affect vitally the conception of an author's entire scheme of thought and belief,—and when they are being diffused by republication in other journals, it seems needful that they should be met.

The current number of the *National Review* contains an article entitled "Science, Nescience and Faith," which is mainly a criticism on my recently-published work, "First Principles." At the outset of this article the reviewer, contrasting Mr. Maurice and myself, says:—

"While the one writer sees in the working of devout wonder and the sense of an eternal living thought the mainspring of all intellectual search, the other deplores the darkening influence of sacred ideas upon the human understanding, and opposes Science to Religion as the known to the unknown—the perceptions of daylight to the dreams of night."

This passage manifestly classes me with a school whose conclusions I repudiate, alike on logical grounds and as a matter of sentiment. I distinctly deny that I "deplore the darkening influence of sacred ideas upon the human understanding." I affirm, on the contrary, that I have, in various places, recognized the great value of sacred ideas, even when most erroneous in form. The following brief extracts from "First Principles" will prove this:—

"We have found *a priori* reason for believing that in all religions, even the rudest, there lies hidden a fundamental verity." (P. 23).—"For its essentially valid belief, Religion has constantly done battle." * * And for the guardianship and diffusion of it, Humanity has ever been, and must ever be, its debtor." (P. 100).—"The truly religious element of Religion has always been good; that which has proved untenable in doctrine and vicious in practice, has been its irreligious element; and from this it has been ever undergoing purification." (P. 102).—"For here let me remark that what were above spoken of as the imperfections of Religion, at first great, but gradually diminishing, have been imperfections only as measured by an absolute standard, and not as measured by a relative one. Speaking generally, the religion current in each age, and among each people, has been as near an approximation to the truth as it was then and there possible for men to receive: the more or less concrete forms in which it has embodied the truth, have simply been the means of making thinkable what would otherwise have been unthinkable, and so have for the time being served to increase its impressiveness." (P. 116).

To the plea, very likely to be put in by the reviewer, that what he understands by Religion differs from what I understand by it, I answer, that whatever the difference is, it cannot justify the statement that I "deplore the darkening influence of sacred ideas," when, in the last paragraph, I have distinctly asserted the great value of other forms of religion than that which I believe the highest.

I will only add that the misrepresentation which I have here pointed out is typical of the article as a whole. Nearly all the points which the reviewer makes in the course of his strictures are made by the help of misrepresentations equally unscrupulous, though less obvious.

HERBERT SPENCER.

IMPERIAL PARIS.

Paris, October, 1862.

A stroll through Paris is suggestive. Walk abroad early, and you find a population of workmen and soldiers in the streets; the former, for the most part, artisans connected with building trades,—the latter, from their numbers, more than ever leading you to believe that you are in a city under military rule. With an affection, perhaps, for ancient places and quaint architecture, you go in search of localities famous in history; but all is changed, and where tortuous alleys perplexed you, and houses almost met overhead, are now wide streets, flanked by mansions palatial in appearance, but far too much of one pattern to be picturesque. One of the most recent demolitions has been the Place de Grève district, dear to Victor Hugo, which has been swept away by the powerful monarch who has banished the novelist. The charming old houses of that locality, and the little charming tower where Condé reposed after his battle against Turenne, are gone for ever; and where they stood is now an avenue to which the name of our Queen has been given. But, besides stately houses, new avenues and boulevards, an enormous triumphal arch is to be erected at the Barrière du Trône, of larger proportions than that at the Barrière de l'Étoile, the object being to commemorate the successes of the French arms in Italy and the Crimea. Nor, be it remembered, is Paris alone altered by this Imperial system: Bordeaux, Lyons and other large towns in France are being rapidly changed; and Algiers is to be embellished at a cost of many millions of francs. The Government architectural prize this year has been given to a design for a palace for the Governor of Algeria, which, if carried out, will give that official a residence far grander than half the palaces in Europe.

Where the money comes from to work all these changes is a problem by no means easy of solution. Easier of comprehension is the extensive and well-digested plan by which all the improvements in the metropolis are made subservient to the one great scheme of rendering it impossible for the citizens to hold Paris against the military. Every alteration in and near Paris is based on this strategical purpose. Thus, the internal boulevards form a circular means of communication round the centre of the city, and, by the recent enlargement of the *octroi* walls, a second similar system of communication, exterior to the former, has been obtained, by which means troops will be enabled to act together and isolate any part of the city from the rest. With the same object, the Rue de Rivoli pierces the city from east to west, and establishes a direct communication between the important garrisons of Mont Valérien and Vincennes; while the Boulevard Sébastopol effects the same purpose between the military posts of St.-Denis and the forts of Bicêtre. At Vincennes, which is undergoing thorough restoration, the ancient machicolations are being so altered as to enable the garrison to throw shot, shell and grenades on any persons around the fortress. I observed here that great use is made of M. Coignet's *bétons agglomérés*, or artificial stone, and was informed that the Emperor has ordered it to be used in the construction of all the new buildings. The substance consists of a stone paste which hardens in the most remarkable manner. The materials employed are lime, calcareous cements, various sands, and ashes, and pounded bricks and burnt earth. M. Coignet has taken out patents in England for his invention, and exhibits his artificial stone in the International Exhibition. He states that the best compositions for building-stone are seven proportions of sand, one of burnt earth or brick, and one of lime in pulp.

It is pleasant to see that, amidst all this work of destruction in Paris, which necessarily has the effect of making house-accommodation dearer, the requirements of the working classes have not been overlooked. A vast lodging-house for artisans is in course of erection on the Boulevard Mazas, which, I understand, will embody every improvement and be a model structure.

The English school of painting is at length about to be officially recognized, the order having gone forth that rooms in the Louvre are to be

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prepared for the reception of English pictures. Pleasanter, however, to Parisians is another order, for enlarging the Galerie Napoléon, for the purpose of receiving more relics of their idol. Among these are the tombstone that covered his remains at St. Helena, and some yards of rusty railings,—both of which have been lying at Cherbourg. We may be excused for feeling some surprise that such relics, suggestive as they must be of national humiliation, should be dragged from obscurity; but of Napoleon the First it is clear the French can never have enough.

A stroll through Paris is apt to give rise to strange thoughts. You are astonished, on the one hand, by the architectural, engineering and decorative work, denoting progress in the right direction; but if you look at the booksellers' windows, your ideas undergo sudden revolution, and you are compelled to modify, if not altogether reverse, your judgment. At least, such was my experience; for when I had contemplated, with wonder, the many new structures erected and in progress in various parts of Paris, I felt that, however much the taste of the Parisians may be improved, the moral tone of their literature is at a lower ebb than ever. I say this because, in the course of a few minutes, I copied the following titles of books exposed for sale in the leading booksellers' shops:—‘Le Péché d'un Mari,’—‘Les Cours Galantes,’—‘Un Point curieux des Meurs privées de la Grèce,’—‘Ce que Vierge ne doit lire,’—‘Elle **,’ with a frontispiece frightfully suggestive of wickedness,—‘Le Démon d'Alcôve,’ with another foul frontispiece,—‘La Réputation d'une Femme,’—‘La Trêve de Dieu,’—‘Une Femme libre,’—‘Les Femmes de Provence.’ Now, I am well aware that publications with far more objectionable titles than the above are exposed for sale in London, but only in dark places; whereas the foregoing books are to be seen in the most thronged thoroughfares in Paris. What their contents are, I cannot say; but we may safely assume that they are of an immoral nature. How is it, we may ask, that a Government which crushes the slightest expression of political feeling permits the publication of such literary filth as these books probably contain? Is it not to be explained by the fact that, so long as Parisians are amused, there is the less probability of their thoughts dwelling on political slavery? This has ever been the policy of those in power in France. An event that I witnessed in Paris during the fearful scenes in 1848 strikingly illustrates this. The streets were wet with blood; all the theatres had been closed for some days, and there was not a single place of amusement open in all Paris. Well, at this juncture, when, be it remembered, life was far from safe, Victor Hugo gave notice of a motion in the National Assembly to the effect that it was desirable to make a large grant to the directors of various theatres, to enable them to be opened. I was present when he made his speech; and I confess, when I heard him say, before a crowded assembly, that the safety of Paris depended on opening the theatres, the thought, what manner of people are these, who can go to theatres at such a time? was naturally forced on me. Victor Hugo's motion, I may add, was carried by an overwhelming majority; the theatres were immediately opened, and were, as usual, filled. Perhaps it is on this amusement principle that the Emperor has ordered the erection of more new places of public amusement in Paris.

W.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

Mr. Murray's annual trade-sale took place on Tuesday last, when the following new works were sold:—4,000 copies of Sir Charles Lyell's work ‘On the Antiquity of Man,’—700 of Mrs. Atkinson's ‘Travels in the Tartar Steppes,’—900 of Capt. Blakiston's ‘Yang-tse,’—1,000 of Mr. Borrow's ‘Wild Wales,’—3,200 of Mr. Smiles's new volume of the ‘Lives of Engineers,’—800 of ‘Hand-book to the Eastern Cathedrals of England,’—700 of Commander Brine's ‘Narrative of the Taepings,’—2,500 of Dr. William Smith's second volume of ‘Dictionary of the Bible,’—1,500 of Mr. Fergusson's ‘History of Modern Architecture,’

—700 of Commander Mayne's ‘Account of Vancouver Island,’—900 of Rawlinson's ‘Ancient Monarchies,’—1,800 of Canon Stanley's ‘Lectures on the Jewish Church,’—700 of Arthur Hallam's ‘Remains.’ The various established works were sold in large numbers. Mr. Mudie, as usual, was the largest purchaser of the new publications.

A second edition of Mr. Spenser St. John's work on ‘Life in the Forests of the Far East’ is in the press.

Messrs. Allen & Co. have made arrangements with the French publishers for a translation of the clever book, by General Daumas, lately reviewed in the *Athenæum*, ‘Les Chevaux du Sahara et les Meurs du Désert.’

Messrs. Williams & Norgate are preparing for publication ‘A Manual of European Butterflies,’ by Mr. W. F. Kirby.

The National Gallery was re-opened to the public on Monday last. Although several new pictures were looked for, only one, a Hobbema, has made its appearance on the walls. It is the first picture by this master which has been admitted into the National collection, and may be received as a very fair type of the subjects chosen by the painter. It exhibits a cottage, with heavy sloping thatch and square windows, at the turn of a road, enriched with masses of dark trees and brilliant twigs glittering in the clear sunshine. The picture is of a comparatively small size, and painted on panel, but remarkable for the clear depth of the shadows and its sparkling effects of sunlight. The extreme solidity and thickness of the impasto on the road, especially where the ruts in the foreground lie as deep channels between ridges of paint, are unusual features in the workmanship of this artist. The very large blotches of paint in the foliage about the cottage are peculiar, and the picture, masterly as it is, may be considered as more sketchy and bold than any other of his known works of first-rate excellence.

The Patent Museum at South Kensington has lately received a very interesting addition to its contents in the celebrated “Rocket” Engine, constructed by the late George Stephenson in 1829, and which, it will be remembered, competed successfully at the famous trial of locomotives at Rainhill, near Liverpool, in that year. The engine, which is extremely curious, is wonderfully perfect, bearing in mind its age and the hard work that it has gone through. An inscription states that many missing parts have been restored by Messrs. G. R. Stephenson & Co. Near this engine stands the “Puffing Billy,” which was constructed in 1813 for Mr. Blackett, the proprietor of the Wylam Collieries. This is the oldest locomotive in existence. After many trials and alterations it commenced working in 1813, and continued working until June, 1862, when it was removed to the Patent Museum.

Alpine travellers who have strained their eyes in vain to see living chamois in their native haunts have now an opportunity of seeing these interesting animals; the King of Italy, who has long taken a very active part in the acclimatization of animals in his kingdom, having sent a pair of chamois and two ibex-like animals to our Zoological Gardens, and also a pair of bulls and a pair of cows of great beauty and of a very remarkable breed.

We are glad to have the means of correcting an error, which the reader will perceive was not our own:—

“Society of Arts, Birmingham, Nov. 3, 1862.

“It is stated in the *Athenæum* for Saturday, the 1st inst., that the Birmingham School of Art had been closed; whereas the school was never in a more healthy or prosperous condition, the receipts exceeding the current expenses by a considerable amount, so that some liabilities of old standing will soon be cleared off. The error appears to have arisen from the *Builder*, of last Saturday week, misquoting a paragraph in the ‘District News’ of one of the Birmingham papers, which refers to another School of Art in the Midland Counties.

“I am, &c., D. W. RAIMBACH, Master.”

In the article on the Basque Language in the last

number of the *Athenæum*, there is a slight error which requires correction. It is said (column 1 of page 560) that Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte “spends most of his time in England.” For “most,” read much.

The wall-maps published by Messrs. Longman have been drawn by Mr. E. Weller, not Miller, as we stated last week.

To save the house in which Goethe was born at Frankfort-on-the-Main from further desecration, it has been purchased by Dr. Volger, an eminent geologist, for the sum of 56,000 florins; and it is his intention to restore it to its original state, and then hand it over to the German “Hochstift”—a flourishing society for arts and sciences, of which Dr. Volger is the founder. Animated by similar feelings of piety, a friend of the late Robert Brown, Dr. Booth, has placed over the chimney-piece of the back room of 17, Dean Street, Soho (now occupied by an upholsterer), a tablet bearing the following inscription:—“This room, the library, and the adjoining one, the study, of the Right Honourable Sir Joseph Banks, Baronet, President of the Royal Society, and, after his death, of Robert Brown, Esq., F.R.S., Foreign Associate of the Academy of Sciences and the Institute of France, were for nearly seventy years the resort of the most distinguished men of science in the world, the last assemblage of whom was on the occasion of the funeral of Mr. Brown, who expired on the 10th of June, 1858, in the eighty-fifth year of his age.”

The Council of the Institution of Civil Engineers invite, among other subjects for premiums during the next session, communications, to be paid for in awards of 25 guineas, on—(1) ‘Accounts of existing Waterworks; including the source of supply, a description of the different modes of collecting and filtering, the distribution throughout the streets of towns, and the general practical results;—(2) ‘A History of any Tidal River, or Estuary,—accompanied by plans and longitudinal and cross sections,—including notices of any works which may have been executed upon it, of the relative effect of Tidal and Fresh Water, and of the effect of Enclosures from the Tidal Area upon the general regime, of Sluicing where applied to the improvement of the entrance or the removal of a Bar, and of Groynes or Parallel Training Walls;—(3) ‘On the Results of the use of Tabular Boilers, and of Steam at an increased pressure for Marine Engines;—and (4) ‘On the Manufacture of large Masses of Iron for the purposes of Warfare, as Armour Plates, &c.’—The competition for these prizes is open to all the world.

Messrs. Chapman & Hall have published a series of sporting sketches, “Hunting Bits,” by Mr. H. K. Browne—“Phiz.” A careful examination of these has not enabled us to discern any particular value, either humorous or artistic, possessed by them which might have called for, or even justified, their publication. For the sake of an illustrator in whose etchings to Irish military novels we believed, while the novels themselves were readable, we regret to see how small is the print he is contented with. We fear the publication and exhibition of Mr. Leech's sketches from *Punch* must have so raised the standard of fun in the hunting-field, that the little joke discoverable in one of the drawings before us will not be very welcome. This example, undoubtedly the best, shows a young gentleman clearing a hedge into an unseen parish “pound,” that lies in the sunken road before him. The joke is to be found in the word “Pounding,” which appears on the margin of the design. In mercy to the reader we have selected this exhilarating example, and merely hint at others,—as “Hare-hunting extraordinary,” a bald man losing his wig—“Taking a good line of country,”—the utter folly of which is indescribable, and one or two more of the same stamp. There are others so dreary as to have not even folly for a purpose. These things are valueless. Smart sketches, made with a drawing-master's touch, of men riding horses up or down hills, and having no intention beyond this, really ought not to be taken from even an amateur's sketch-book. The times are gone by, we trust, when a flimsy sketch with a scarlet coat in it can be welcomed by hunting-men.

The Lords of the Treasury, to whom the petition for opening the Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh, on Sundays, was addressed, have replied, in effect, that, taking into view the novelty and seriousness of the question as regarded in Edinburgh, with the strong feelings and decided opinions on the subject of the observance of the Sabbath which prevail there, and also having regard to the present season of the year, they deem it proper to postpone any decision until the spring shall be near at hand, when they will have further opportunity of receiving information as to the prevailing wishes of the community on the subject.

An Irish local paper, the *Munster News*, gives an account of a curious silver cross that has been discovered in the ruins of Quin Abbey, County Clare, by a herdsman of the neighbourhood, while making some casual researches amongst the old stones that had fallen from the walls. This is supposed to have been a pectoral cross of mitred abbot of the Franciscan order, to whom the abbey, one of the oldest in Ireland, belonged. It is of silver, gilt, perfectly solid, elaborately wrought for its size, and bears a figure of the crucified Saviour; the prominent features were partially worn, presumably by constant attrition. It is said to be of fourteenth-century workmanship. From the fact of the wearing away of the features, and also of the ribbon-ring, by which it would be suspended, this reliquary would appear to have been in use for a considerable period, and to have been a sort of official heir-loom of successive abbots. The foot-ring, from which is suspended an ornamental silver drop or tassel, is, in like manner, worn to a mere thread. Above the head of the Redeemer's figure is a small, square, silver box, embracing a precious stone of sanguine hue, and affording room for a relic; in the foot of the article was another hole, probably intended to contain a second stone.

M. Robert has communicated to the French Academy an account of the interesting discoveries recently made in the Rue d'Enfer, at Paris, during the process of lowering the street to the level of the Boulevard de Sébastopol. These consist of a great variety of articles, mostly of Celtic and Gallo-Roman origin, including several flint implements similar to those found at St.-Acheul, near Amiens. The articles were all found in undisturbed drift, and are supposed by M. Robert to belong to the same period as the objects discovered many years ago near Marly, Meudon and Belleville.

In one of the sittings of the Philological Meeting at Augsburg, Prof. von Lützow read a paper on the Barberini Faun of the Munich Glyptothek, with a view to ascertaining its date. He began by stating the difficulty of attaining any certainty, owing to the absence of all inscription on the statue, the want of all mention of it in classical authors, as well as the rarity of similar works. Neither Greek statues, Greek vases nor Greek bronzes have treated a satyr sleeping; the only work at all resembling the Barberini Faun is a bronze discovered in Herculaneum, and generally ascribed to Roman Art. In literature there are only two instances of a sleeping faun being mentioned: one instance occurs in the Anthology, the other in Pliny. Modern authorities differ very widely on the time and the school to which the Barberini Faun belongs. Schorn and Waagen attribute it to Praxiteles or Scopas; Waagen comparing it to the Theseus and Ilyssus; Winckelmann's Editors put it after Alexander; others place it in the Neronian period. Dr. von Lützow assigns it to Roman Art of the Alexandrine time, giving as his reasons the excellent naturalism of the work, the truth of the anatomy, the force and reality of the picture of drunken sleep, all of which are attributes of a later time, and of Art on its passage from idealism to realism. In addition to these reasons, a powerful argument is found in the skin on which the Faun is lying being, not a panther's skin, as Greek Art would naturally give, but a wolf's skin, evidently connected with Rome.

That "the old order changeth, giving place to new," never had a more startling affirmation than the opening, a few days since, of the new line of railway between Smyrna and Ephesus. Would any one expect to be shot by steam along that

road, or to hear goods-trade managers expatiating upon the probability—indeed, extreme desirability—of developing the carrying business in the Menander Valley, or a traffic-manager enlarging upon the transit of Turkish or *quasi*-Turkish folks by omnibus through the Saladin Pass as not so profitable to a railway company as their going by way of Ephesus! One feels a little more at home when the first-named functionary refers to the 70,000 camel-loads of figs that are estimated as the season's production in those regions. Seventy thousand camel-loads of figs!—what a glorious sound it has! Fifty thousand bales of cotton, another product, is well enough, and would be thankfully welcomed here just now; but 70,000 camel-loads of Smyrna figs coming by way of Ephesus reads like a bit of old Ryeant, of that potent individual Busbequin, or, better still, Marco Polo's far-off predecessor William de Rubruquis, who, priest as he was, ever had an eye open for trade. As it is, the "express," even at twenty-five miles an hour, would strain the credulity of the magic-believing Ephesians: Maximus, the Emperor Julian's teacher in magic, would not pretend to do this thing. Truly, a return-ticket from Smyrna to Ephesus and back in 100 minutes would have had a value incalculable to Antony, and worth all the *litera Ephesia* are said to have been to Croesus, who escaped the pyre by them. This is almost enough to make the many-bosomed Diana, the "stock" of the Ephesians, reappear in her temple.

WINTER EXHIBITION, 120, Pall Mall.—The TENTH ANNUAL WINTER EXHIBITION OF CABINET PICTURES by living British Artists, is now OPEN daily from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission 1s. Catalogue 6d.

MR. JOHN LEECH'S GALLERY OF SKETCHES in OIL, from Subjects in *Punch*, with several New Pictures not hitherto exhibited, is OPEN every day from 10 till dusk, illuminated with Gas, at the AUCTION MART near the Bank.—Admission, One Shilling.

BEDFORD'S PHOTOGRAPHS of the EAST, taken during the Tour on which, by command, he accompanied H.R.H. the Prince of Wales in Egypt, the Holy Land and Syria, Constantinople, the Mediterranean, Athens, &c. EXHIBITING by permission, and Names of Subscribers received, at the GERMAN GALLERY, 168, New Bond Street, DAILY, from Ten till dusk.—Admittance, One Shilling.

SCIENCE

MEDICAL BOOKS.

Bodily Deformities. By E. J. Chance. Part I. (Lemare).—Mr. Chance, who has for many years devoted himself to the study and treatment of deformities, gives the results of his experience in the present work. We have here, however, only the first part, and this is more especially devoted to what we may call the philosophy of deformity. However vulgar and common the facts of the external world may be, they are all the result of law; and whatever may be the poetry or interest attached to law can be given to the most commonplace facts of our existence. Thus Mr. Chance has succeeded in throwing an air of interest around club-feet, hump-backs and squinting eyes, that at first sight might seem impossible. He shows that all departures from the normal symmetry are as much subservient to law as the symmetry itself. Wry-necks and club-feet are not all possible distortions of the neck and feet, but distortions of a fixed and invariable kind. Mr. Chance has pursued this subject in a very scientific manner, and given interest to an otherwise dry and repulsive subject. His views of correcting the various deformities to which flesh is heir will be presented in his second part. In the mean time, we commend what he has done both to the profession and the public.

On the Mechanical Appliances for the Treatment of Deformity. By Henry Heather Bigg. Part II. (Churchill).—Here is another book on deformities, but at quite the other end of the scale as compared with Mr. Chance's. Mr. Bigg does not deal with the subject from an anatomical or physiological point of view at all. He is not even a surgeon; but, nevertheless, his part of the subject to those who are afflicted with deformity is as important as that which is contemplated by the philosopher.

If you have the misfortune to possess a twisted spine, the chances are that you will not get cured without using some kind of apparatus either to fit on to the body or to place the body on. It is to

this part of the subject that Mr. Bigg devotes himself, and he does it with great earnestness and conscientiousness. In all he writes, he betrays a mind anxious to understand the principles of the art he professes. It is, undoubtedly, one of the humbler duties of the surgical profession, the construction of its instruments; but the patient is no less indebted to the man who intelligently constructs an instrument than to the surgeon who skilfully wields it. Mr. Bigg's book will be found a most important aid in the library of all young practitioners who may be called upon to treat deformities.

The Spas of Europe. By Julius Althaus, M.D. (Trübner & Co.).—The history of medicinal springs affords an interesting illustration of the influence of fashion in medicine. There are spots all over Europe, now deserted, where once were seen throngs of busy health-seekers, with all the usual accompaniments of a fashionable watering-place. Towns are now rising into eminence whose only foundation is the precarious estimation in which some mineral spring is for the present held. From the earliest times in the history of man, those waters which were naturally heated, or possessed other physical properties, were regarded as possessing healing virtues; and up to the time that modern chemistry commenced investigating their composition, sometimes regarded with even superstitious veneration. When chemistry, however, demonstrated that the heat of thermal waters was identical with the heat of a fire, and that the elements of mineral springs were identical with those in the chemist's shop, it went a long way towards diminishing faith in their medicinal efficacy. In England they were especially neglected; and the spas of the Continent were visited more for amusement and recreation than for the efficacy of their waters. Nevertheless, there is an undercurrent of confidence in these waters, and many intelligent physicians vouch for medicinal effects by their use that are not produced by any artificial combinations. Whether there be any foundation for this confidence or not, it is highly important that good analyses of these waters should be in the hands of medical practitioners; and Dr. Althaus has certainly presented the English reader with the best account of the Spas of Europe that he has had since the publication of Dr. Meredith Gairdner's book on Mineral Springs in 1832. Strangely enough, Dr. Althaus, whilst giving in his bibliography the names of some of the least valuable of our works on Mineral Springs, does not refer to Dr. Gairdner's work. With this and other defects, we can still recommend Dr. Althaus's book as by far the best that has been written in our language, with a medical object in view.

Researches on the Nature and Treatment of Diabetes. By F. W. Pavay, M.D. (Churchill).—The discovery that the liver is not only a bile-making organ, and by over-activity an embitterer of life, but a sugar-making organ and a sweetener of the blood, is one of the glories of modern physiology. Dr. Pavay has placed his name by the side of the distinguished French physiologist, Claude Bernard, by his researches on this subject. Bernard showed that the liver formed sugar; but Pavay showed that it first formed starch or a starch-like substance, which became converted into sugar in the air. He questions, indeed, if in health sugar is ever formed in the blood; but in the disease called diabetes it unquestionably exists. We have thus arrived at a knowledge of how this substance gets into the blood. It is either thrown into the blood from the liver in greater quantities than it ought to be, or it is detained in the blood by some deficient excretory power. Henceforth the treatment of diabetes becomes more scientific, reasonable and certain, and Dr. Pavay has devoted this work to the consideration of its nature and treatment. We need not say that it is entitled to the consideration and study of the medical profession.

On Some of the more Important Diseases of the Army. By John Davy, M.D.—If science had never known the name of Humphry Davy, it would have been deeply indebted to his brother John. Dr. Davy has not only acquired reputation as a practical physician, but he has made numerous contributions to physiological and natural-history science. He now places before the world

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his medical experience, and this volume will be found to embrace a large quantity of valuable pathological research. Dr. Davy's experience is more especially confined to the army, and his papers will be read with interest and improvement by the medical officers in our public services.

SOCIETIES.

INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS.—Nov. 3.—The President, W. Tite, Esq. M.P., delivered the Introductory Address. Reviewing the occurrences during the past session, he lamented the loss of its Patron, His late Royal Highness the Prince Consort, whose powerful influence had ever been used to the best of his ability for the promotion of Art and Science. To him was owing the idea of the International Exhibition, so recently closed. As to the manner in which that building had been carried out by the engineer to whom it was entrusted, it was deeply to be deplored that it tended little to the credit of British Architecture. "As a shed," "tolerably lighted," and "suited for the display of the goods in it," it had answered its purpose; but the arrangements of the plan were far from satisfactory, and in every sense of architectural or artistic treatment it was seriously defective. As President, therefore, of the Institute of British Architects, he disclaimed for the profession that any judgment as to the present condition of English Architecture should be founded upon it. A very satisfactory circumstance during the past year was the invitation, by desire of Her Majesty herself, to several of the members of the Institute to consider and report upon the proposed Memorial to the Prince Consort, by which act the profession had been duly recognized; and he confidently felt that those to whom the preparation of the designs had been entrusted would do justice to the opportunity. He took occasion to warn the profession that in these days of progress they must not allow themselves to be trammelled by servile adherence to precedent, but that they must seize and adapt to their own uses the advantages offered by the numerous new materials and discoveries of the present day, since otherwise they could not hope to influence the public, as they undoubtedly ought.

Upon the question of how this influence was to be exercised so as to promote Art-education, some observations were made; and the lectures by Mr. Smirke and Mr. Scott at the Royal Academy, and those delivered at this Institute, valuable in their way, were considered necessarily to have but a limited effect; and he thought it desirable that popularly-written courses of lectures should be given, at but small cost, for the purpose of diffusing taste and educating the public in the principles of Art, but particularly for the sake of workmen and those who have to execute designs, and whose deficiency in the appreciation of their spirit architects have so constantly to deplore. The extensive municipal alterations in foreign cities—*e.g.*, Paris, Brussels, &c.—were, if not paralleled, to a great extent proposed to be so in London at the present time. The Thames Embankment was one scheme of great magnitude and importance, and it was much to be hoped that it would be carried out in a manner that might embellish the metropolis. The several new bridges were reviewed, and considered to be generally, however scientific, wanting in architectural truth and beauty, while several were absolutely ugly. The numerous private buildings lately erected in the city were commended for their many various architectural merits, which far more than counterbalanced any defects of detail, which some certainly present, and they were contrasted generally in a very favourable light with most of the public buildings that have been erected.—The deaths of several Members of the Institute during the year were announced. Some remarks upon sundry arrangements as to the conduct of the business of the Institute concluded the Address.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Nov. 3.—F. Smith, Esq., President, in the chair.—John S. Stevens, Esq. was elected a Member.—Notice was given that a Special General Meeting would be held on Monday, the 1st of December, at 7 P.M., to consider certain proposed alterations in the by-laws.—Sir J. Hearsey exhibited *Smerinthus denticulatus*, and

drawings of the larvae: in addition to a caudal horn or spine, the young larvae had a frontal one, which, however, was cast off at the last change of skin.—Mr. Bond exhibited a monstrosity of *Acherontia atropos*, and two specimens of *Lithosia Caniola*, bred from the egg, by Dr. Knaggs.—Mr. Stainton exhibited bred specimens of *Bactra uliginosana* from Stettin, and called attention to a paper 'On the Genus *Neptacula*', by Von Heinemann, of Brunswick, published in the *Wiener Entomologische Monatschrift* for August last, in which the author described ten new species, and stated the result of his elaborate investigations as to the change of skin by the larva, the extreme brevity of the larval existence, and the neuration of the wings of the imago.—Prof. Westwood criticized a recent note by Mr. Newman on the true position of *Acentropus*, and repeated his previously-expressed opinion that the insect was lepidopterous. The Professor also exhibited the leaves of various plants which had been mined by the larvae of insects, arranged so as to show the distinctions between the different mines; and he also called attention to the injury done to celery plants by the dipterous insect *Tephritis Onopordinis*.—The President exhibited the various stages of a hymenopterous insect which had done great damage to the gooseberry and currant bushes in Gloucestershire, and which he took to be the *Nematus trimaculatus* (St. Farg.).—Mr. Stevens mentioned that the insect described by Dr. Schaum, at the September meeting of the Society, under the name of *Scaritarchus Midas*, had been previously described in Paris, in *Guerin's Magazine* for August last, under the name of *Mouhotia gloria*.—Mr. Saunders exhibited numerous specimens of *Catasopus*, and read a paper on the representatives of that genus discovered in the East Indian Isles, by Mr. Wallace, in which four new species were described.—Mr. Waterhouse communicated a paper 'Upon certain British Species of the Genus *Quedius*'.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—Nov. 3.—W. Pole, Esq., Treas. and V.P., in the chair.—A. F. Androsen, Esq., T. R. Williams, Esq. and the Hon. W. Warren Vernon were elected Members.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MON.	Geographical, 8.	—'Latest Explorations, Australia,' Msrs. Landsborough, Walker, &c.
TUES.	Royal Academy, 8.	—'Anatomy,' Prof. Partridge.
	Horticultural.—Fruit and Floral Committee.	
	Synthetic, 8.	—'Passages in Old Testament, on Egypt,' Mr. Sharpe.
	Civil Engineers, 8.	—'Railway System, Germany,' Mr. Crawford.
	Zoological, 9.	—'Aye-Aye, Zoological Gardens,' Mr. Bartlett.
	Antropological, 9.	—'Coronilla levigata,' Dr. Buckland; 'Corals, Madiera,' Mr. Johnson.
WED.	Society of Literature, 4.	
THURS.	Microscopical, 8.	
FRI.	Astronomical, 8.	

FINE ARTS

THE WINTER EXHIBITION.

THIS exhibition is of a mixed character: there are some good pictures, and more good sketches; but there are also many specimens which are neither pictures nor sketches. Amongst the satisfactory works is a study by Leslie, several small pictures by Mr. Stanfield, sketch by Madame Henriette Browne, Mr. E. M. Ward's small versions of his well-known pictures *James the Second receiving the News of King William's Landing* (No. 36), and *Marie Antoinette's Adieu to the Dauphin* (95); together with others by Messrs. Creswick, Lee, Anthony, T. S. Cooper, D. Roberts, V. Cole, H. Dawson, Duverger, W. C. T. Dobson, J. Philip, J. Linnell and Calderon.

Mr. E. M. Ward's small pictures show more than any other examples how much an artist may improve himself by close study of a single quality. We miss the clear, bright, though somewhat hard, precision of this artist's early manner, and regret his absence, but must not fail to own the richness, luminousness and strength shown in those now before us. These are not to be considered as finished pictures, or we should claim more purity of colour than they show as due to the artist's credit.—*The Little Brother's Toilet* (2), by M. Duverger, we have seen before here. It is a charming little work of a child helping his brother to

adjust a wide-waisted pair of breeches—a world too wide—about his body. No doubt, these are hereditary possessions, and have descended to more than one grade of the family. This picture, together with *Pussy's Likeness* (26), two urchins bringing a kitten to self-contemplation in a mirror, and *Fortune Telling by Cards* (195), a little maid-servant showing her skill to the admiration of a younger child, while her domestic duties come to grief, are all remarkable for character, sobriety of colour, fidelity and sweetness of tone, and the quiet humour of homely French Art.—Mr. J. Clarke was never remarkable for the careful and delicate manner of his drawing; but in *My Clever Brother* (110) he exceeds the limits of pardonable slovenliness. This work shows less humour, novelty and feeling for colour than anything we have seen by him. A small boy is watching the skill of his brother in drawing on a slate. Behind sits their mother, demurely employed with her needle.—Mr. G. D. Leslie has two clever sketches, styled *Tea* (10) and *Coffee* (18)—a young lady employed at the equipage of each—which, notwithstanding their bluntness, are pleasant to look on for character shown. Mr. Leslie will never become an artist, we are bound to say, upon things such as these. His father's practice has evidently suggested much of the manner into which he has fallen; a thing to be regretted, insomuch that he lacks the ambition to do so well with the material. That father's suggestive study of a lady, styled *Reverie* (208), shows how delicate and subtle was his perception of character: there is nothing, and yet everything, for the fancy to dwell upon in this; a woman thinking—dreaming, it may be, wide awake; and so truly shown to be so, that the expression turns us from the rough, opaque and cold manner of painting that renders it and the accessories of the picture.

M. Schlesinger's *Young Girl at Prayer* (8) looks sentimental.—The mere furniture painting of Mr. C. Baxter's *Flower-Basket—Summer Time* (17)—is extremely offensive from its meretriciousness, as sham sentiment and sham beauty ever are.—We may contrast with these the pleasant childish characteristics shown in the numerous little studies of infants and children by Mrs. E. M. Ward. These, if somewhat heavily handled, show much feeling for colour that ought to be refined and made brilliant, and are delightful in appreciation of the subjects. *Two of My Pets* (212) will please most people; others will not fail to like the chubby, though disproportioned, baby in *The Toy-Basket* (58), or *The Summer's Walk* (60)—a nursemaid and children "going out": one of the last steps beside the conductress with a gay grace, the spirited rendering of which is excellent. Mrs. Ward presents children so charmingly, that we should be glad if she would rid herself of tendency to paintiness and opacity, which much reduces the value of her real skill and feeling.—Mr. F. Smallfield's *Book-seller's Hack* (216)—poor devil reading MSS. in a garret—despite its clayey, unpleasant colour, has good valuable tone, and is full of character.—Mr. J. Burr's *Young Vegetarian* (113)—children feeding a dog—has feeling for nature in expression, despite its unpleasant greenness of colour in the Scotch manner and slovenly execution.

Mr. Calderon's suggestive picture, with a motto from Mr. Tennyson (176),—a gentleman, in medieval costume, looking at the portrait of a nun, while a lady, presumably his wife, eyes him askance yet without surprise,—has a tale of its own to be read. It is exceedingly clever in all respects, yet not to go into matters of execution, one feels its lack of earnestness; the purpose that should employ so much ability as the artist has, is not here. It is a picture which, like a trivial play, satisfies only half-sentiment of pathos, and verges upon the sentimental, if not the melo-dramatic. The sketch of one of the figures in his picture, *The Sister of Charity* (193), by Madame H. Browne, is just as excellent as one would expect from the accomplished painter.—Mr. F. Goodall's *Children in the Wood* (197) has an expressive force about it that pleases us far beyond the Neapolitan theme styled *Prayer* (33), by him,—some natives adoring the Madonna: a bagpiper and a flutist salute the image.—Mr. Dobson has failed to get the sunni-

ness of Eastern air, even although indulging in much positive colour, in his young woman—no Oriental, though bearing a pitcher,—styled *Rebecca* (54). Although there is some merit of part-painting in this, we fail to see either its aptitude or general value;—it is not *Rebecca*, but an ordinary German girl: there is portraiture without expression here, and prose of treatment without the fidelity to nature which is estimable in prosaic Art.—Mr. J. Philip's *The Letter* (56) is a dashing, rather over-sweet and juicy sketch of a girl reading.—Mrs. Hay's *Reception of the Prodigal Son* (128) exhibits the mere quaintness, here an affectation, of the early Italian schools, with none of their real intensity, beauty or vigour. This lady can do better than to draw a figure so badly as that of the Son, whose shoulders and legs are all wrong, and can produce other things than the feeble, half-jawed face of the attendant with the robe, who casts up his eyes so affectedly. Mr. P. R. Morris's *Afloat* (146), a child's head, is cleverly done, but too babyish for the costume.

Many of the Landscapes here are excellent. Mr. D. Roberts has sent a view of *Venice* (14), looking past the Dogana down the Grand Canal, —a vista that is kept together with unusual power and breadth.—Mr. S. Cooper's *Summer's Day* (4) has more colour, sunlight and force than we generally see from him.—Mr. V. Cole's *Hay-making* (29) is painted with much local truth of colour, brilliancy and atmospheric truth. His *Harvesting* (106) lacks grey in the right corner, and is not a little mannered, with all its cleverness.—Mr. Dawson has several excellent landscapes, proving that he will soon master the dry sand-papered look of his earlier manner. Of these, *Chepstow Castle* (30), showing the Wye at full, and fine grey tones on the distant hills, and *Reaping* (44), are noteworthy.—Mr. Linnell's *Windy Day* (64) and *Harvesting* (175) are as vigorously true and full of atmospheric force as usual with the painter.—Mr. Stanfield has several small pictures: the best is a version of *The Race of Ramsey* (86), this year at the Academy. *Off the Coast of France* (66) has a warm light that is valuable.—Mr. Lee's two pictures, *The Brook and the Mill, Devon* (91), and *View from the Devil's Gap, Gibraltar* (101), will convince any one that the painter has no eye for colour, however solidly he can handle a subject. With cold light, his shadows are cold and black. How can he produce Devon foliage like painted stone, or the Mediterranean like milk-and-water?—Mr. Anthony's *Glen at Eve* (127) is a noble landscape—a still-surfaced stream that darkens beneath the setting sun, and gathers gloom from the dense trees upon its banks, their foliage sharply cutting against the evening sky, which looks intensely solemn in its chilly depths whereto the sun recedes.

FINE-ART GOSSIP.—The Goldsmiths' Company have voted a sum of money for the purchase of some of the finest works in precious metals comprised in the British portion of the International Exhibition. The agent of the Kensington Museum has been industriously making purchases in the same place of articles likely to be useful in illustrating the state of Art and Manufactures in many countries.

The long blank of the sides of the road leading to Brompton from Knightsbridge Green, recently widened to admit the Exhibition traffic, does, now that traffic has ceased to fill the space, make itself painfully distinct. Is it not desirable that the west side of the road should be planted with trees? There are many large trees that will grow in far worse places than this road would be, open as it is: witness the noble one that gladdens people's eyes in dense Cheapside, and the very many more that are hidden deep amongst the houses and rooted in the grim city churchyards. The most picturesque street in the metropolis, Cheyne Walk, Chelsea, owes almost all its beauty to the trees that adorn it. Chelsea Hospital Gardens have lost nearly all their grace since the fine avenues of planes have decayed, probably through neglect or improper trimming. Those who saw these splendid trees at the time of the Duke of Wellington's lying in state will now be grieved at the blank dreariness of the

great spare space, wherein only a few ghastly trunks are gathered. Would it not be well to replace the trees that once made the Brompton Road Green, taking care they did not relapse into the scrubby state of yore, and replenish Chelsea Gardens as soon as may be? There are miles of wide roads in London similarly improvable, where too, as at Brompton, there can be no question of the roadway being injured by drippings from their boughs.

Mr. Leech's collection of sketches in oil has been removed from the Egyptian Hall to Bartholomew Lane,—not to Cornhill, as at first intended. Some new pictures have been added.

In our article on the "Results of the International Exhibition" last week, p. 563, col. 2, line 25 from foot, for "Germany," read *Austria*. We hope to afford some additional information on the subject of picture-sales at this place at the end of the period for sales now passing. We have reason to believe that many of the French and English pictures have found purchasers.

The Spanish authorities concerned in the matter have issued invitations to English and other foreign architects to furnish designs in competition for the new building required for the Hispano-American Exhibition to be erected outside the gate of Alcalá. 4,000 mètres is to be appropriated to Agriculture, the same to the Fine Arts, and twice that space to Industrial Products. These are to be appropriated in such a manner that the building may be employed for future public purposes as may be desired. The building is to be designed as standing on a stone base above the foundation, to be built of brick, glazed or unglazed, in the fronts; the framing may be of iron, the light obtained chiefly from skylights. The interior decorations, being temporary, we presume, are to be very simple; but those for the exterior are not to consist of perishable plaster: instead thereof, terra-cotta, bricks of various colours, glazed tiles, stones, &c., of like quality.

Some extensive works in stained glass are in hand for Mr. Bodley's new church on the South Cliff, Scarborough (the east window for which is now in the International Exhibition). It will be seen from the following account of the designs that there is much of the true old humour of ancient Art in these works,—a singular merit now-a-days, when sentiment, sentimentality, asceticism or mere allegorical representations are so rife in this branch of Art. The west window, a combination of two lancets and a rose window, is to have, of life size, in the first, figures of Adam and Eve, seen as before the Fall, and in the Garden of Eden. Adam is amused by the antics of a bear; Eve teases an owl and fondles a partridge, which are seen sitting and staring at her. The backgrounds are composed of many kinds of trees, flowers and animals. It is to be understood that this is not treated in any sense as a mere picture, the designers, Messrs. Morris, Marshall & Co., of Red Lion Square, having most wisely developed the true decorative character of their art, the end of which is to produce intense richness of effect in splendid sobriety of harmonious colouring, so as to fill the edifice containing it with rich light. In this they will undoubtedly succeed, their work exhibiting a subtle knowledge of colour. In the rose light of this window is represented the Last Judgment. The aisles of the church are to be glazed with eight figures of the Old Testament worthies on one side, and the same number from the New Testament on the other. The east window of the north chancel-aisle is to contain the Preaching of John the Baptist. The east window has for subject the Crucifixion, and seven panels that of the Parable of the Vineyard.

At the request of Baron Alfred von Wolzogen, we refer to the statement made in regard to the Amazon statue of Prof. Kiss as having been designed by Schinkel. This is erroneous. "I am obliged," he says, "to rectify a false account which I gave you about the Amazon, by Prof. Kiss. I spoke about it the other day to the sculptor himself, who is one of the greatest admirers of Schinkel (to whose counsels he was much indebted), and who is the last man to wear borrowed plumes. He told me that Schinkel gave him the first idea of the

Amazon group, as the architect was always fond of the subject (showing a particular predilection for Amazons in many of the statuesque decorations which he designed, according to custom, for his buildings), but that he did not draw for him that particular design which you saw in the Schinkel Museum. It was done in *gouache* by Schinkel, after Prof. Kiss's model, because the Crown Prince, in 1834, wished to have it executed on a smaller scale, as a present to the late Duke of Orleans, and Schinkel made the drawing as a guide to the artist who was to reduce it. So that, you see, the family tradition has not been altogether correct."

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, Covent Garden, under the management of Miss Louisa Pyne and Mr. W. Harrison.—*Love's Triumph*, by M. Planché, will be repeated every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday until further Notice. Vide Daily Press.—On Wednesday, November 12 (in consequence of its continued success), *Bella's Popular Opera, THE BOHEMIAN GIRL*,—On Friday, November 14, *Poppy, or, The Flower Girl*,—On Saturday, November 15, *Amphitheatre Stalls, 10s.; Dress Circle, 5s.; Upper Boxes, 4s.; Amphitheatre Stalls, 3s.; Pit, 2s. 6d.; Amphitheatre, 1s.*—The Box-office open daily from Ten till Five. No charge for Booking.

MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS.—ST. JAMES'S HALL MONDAY EVENING, November 10.—Herr Joachim's last appearance but three.—Ex-ecutants: MM. Panier, Jonchin, Piatti, L. Reiss, H. Webb. Vocalists: Miss Martin and Mr. Sims Reeves. Conductor, Mr. Lindsay Sloper. For full particulars, see Programme.—Soft Stalls, 5s.; Balcony, 3s.; Admission, 1s. Tickets at Chappell & Co.'s, 50, New Bond Street; and at Austin's, 25, Piccadilly.

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA.—"Love's Triumph," the new opera produced on Monday last, is a work of more than ordinary interest. Mr. Planché has not appeared for many years as a writer for the musical stage; every one, then, who cares for English Opera, and who remembers what vast and essential changes have come over it since the days when he was Bishop's collaborator—when he had to write for even Weber under awkward conditions imposed by the taste of the time—must naturally have felt curious as to the result of his re-appearance.

The story of "Love's Triumph," Mr. Planché says, was suggested by "Le Portrait Vivant" of MM. Melesville and Laya: a comedy produced at the Théâtre Français in 1842. Its interest turns on a marvellous likeness existing between a French Princess and a Low-Country heiress with no blood-royal in her veins. In the drama, the latter was only spoken of, not presented on the stage. Here Mr. Planché sets forth for music his comedy of errors in the most direct possible form of appeal to the audience. *Mlle. de Valois* and *Teresa* (the two by Miss Louisa Pyne) succeed each other in appearance as rapidly, towards the fortunate close of the love mystification, as did *Valeria* and *Lycisca* in the serious play where the chaste Empress and the voluptuous courtesan were personated by one and the same Rachel.—The bewilderment of poor *De Savigny* (Mr. George Perren), almost as harassing as that of the much-tried *Horace* in "Le Domino Noir," is managed with all Mr. Planché's known tact and neatness.—No fear of his leaving any point without explanation! Whether, however, the machinery with which he has wrought is not sometimes so minute as to demand closer attention than an opera audience will give, and greater point in delivery and finish of by-play than our opera-actors (as a body) can offer, are matters only to be tested in the success of "Love's Triumph." Beyond doubt, the situations are skilfully distributed, so as to give excellent scope for variety and effect to the musician.—Besides the characters already alluded to, the comedy contains *Henri*, a page (Madame Laura Baxter); *Myake van Groot*, father to *Teresa* (Mr. H. Corri); a spendthrift *Count de Canillac* (Mr. Weiss); and last, not least, the foolish and foolish *Marquis de Pons*, Equerry to the Regent Duke of Orleans (Mr. Harrison), who is happier in comic than in sentimental characters, and seems now wisely aware that such is the fact.—There will never be a musical stage worth having in any country till artists cease to demand the same stereotyped occupation, the same *encores* in the same places,—till the tenor be he of what standing he may, will content himself without having any fatally-sweet ballad

allotted to him,—till the heroine can be made happy without the fruitlessly-brilliant *rondo*,—till the *bass* will do his duty without his scene of stupid or sinister vengeance. In so far as Messrs. Planché and Wallace, and the management of the Royal English Opera, have spared us the old stock-in-trade on the present occasion, they merit thanks.

One word more: the spoken dialogue of this *libretto* is always, the words for music are frequently, what we fancy they should be. Here and there we find a phrase too familiar and prosaic to be sung without risk,—here and there (on the other hand) a verb or an adjective more stilted than taste can altogether approve;—but the line to be traced out and followed in writing for this purpose is one of no ordinary delicacy. Moore's comic and semi-serious songs, however, remain to be cited as a study, and as an example of simplicity and archness, always poetical, always going admirably with music. “You remember Ellen,” “Common Sense and Genius,” and “Fanny, dearest” recur to us unbidden as examples. The allusion to Moore makes it unnecessary to insist that, by such appeal to standard and comparison, Mr. Planché is set apart from and above the awkward cutters of prose into lengths for the hapless composer's inspiration, whose imperfect knowledge of their duties has had, in too many cases, no small share in keeping back modern English Opera.

Mr. Wallace has, we think, fallen far more firmly on his feet here than in any of his four former operas. There is a consistent style in ‘Love’s Triumph’—such a style as befits a French Court-story,—showing an advance on that of his ‘Maritana,’ or ‘Matilda,’ or ‘Lurline,’ or ‘Amber Witch.’ The style is French. Has it ever (by the way) been sufficiently admitted that a leaven of this very marked style may be traced throughout the whole modern world of European Opera?—that French effect is half the secret of even Signor Verdi's *cabaletas*, with their skips and their syncopations, and their surprises?—that the one single tune in Herr Wagner's Medieval ‘Lohengrin,’ where Elsa's maidens disrobe her on her bridal night, might have been signed “Adolphe Adam”? —that the chorus opening the second part of Schumann's ‘Paradise and Peri’ resembles a rather dry theme by Halévy or M. Ambroise Thomas (treated, we admit, canonically)?—How long will it be ere the suggestive power of France in dramatic musical art is fairly recognized? Mr. Wallace, at all events (no doubt partly with meritorious regard for local colour), is successfully French throughout a large part of ‘Love’s Triumph.’ He is at once fresher and more piquant in his melodies than we have found him in any former work. The story has been set with a light hand, without lightness becoming flimsiness. The instrumentation is less elaborate than of late with him; not less effective though. We shall next week avail ourselves of the published music, to specify what seems to us best in the opera. Suffice it further, for to-day, to say that the success of ‘Love’s Triumph’ is decided, and to add a word or two concerning the manner of its execution.

‘Love’s Triumph’ has been produced at the Royal English Opera with a steadiness and skill which should content any composer. All concerned in it have obviously worked with good will. Some among them are seen to their best advantage. Miss L. Pyne is throughout excellent, though the part, owing to the rapid changes of its last act, is a harassing one.—Madame Laura Baxter, though not very well fitted to look the part of a saucy page, is at ease on the stage, and sings the music well and effectively—her fine voice telling better even than we had expected.—Mr. Perrin, as tenor, has made real progress in public favour by his finished and expressive singing. His voice is agreeable and sufficient for any occupation; and that which is wanting to him in confidence, and the riddance of a bad habit or two, can easily be acquired.—Of Mr. Harrison we have already spoken.—The part of Mr. Weiss has less interest than any other in the opera, and musically, too, demands that lightness and flexibility rarely attained by voices as rich in original quality as his, and which he never has utterly mastered.—Mr. H. Corri, as

the Dutch merchant, has, both as a singer and an actor, strengthened the impression made by him in ‘Le Domino Noir.’ His comedy was capitally kept up from first to last, without a moment's forgetfulness of the humour to be presented or buffoonery. There is no better acting on any opera stage than his in ‘Love’s Triumph.’ His voice is penetrating as well as agreeable, and has gained some refinement in its delivery. He speaks his words too, with clearness and intelligence. The orchestra is, as usual, entirely under Mr. Mellon's control;—and the chorus sings the unaccompanied partsong (a graceful and effective piece of writing) with a sweetness, spirit and delicacy now to be found in the operatic chorus of no other country save ours.—The dresses are handsome and various;—but the management has been more chary in the matter of scenery than it might have been.

FRENCH OPERA REVIVALS.

On the revival of ‘La Muette’ at the Grand Opéra of Paris, which should by this time have taken place, care and cost have been lavished. The *Fenelle* announced is Madlle. Emma Livry, who has to prove her powers as a mime, and whose attraction as a dancer has not altogether maintained itself at its first high point. *Figaro* promised the public a new favourite in Madlle. Poinet, for whom M. Auber has written some new dance-music. It was originally intended that the *Masaniello* should be M. Michot; but, wisely, the management has decided to wait for Signor Mario, whose Southern blood tells excellently in this fervid Southern part. There is not the whisper of any musical novelty forthcoming;—save the two-act opera by M. Massé. Signor Rossini's ‘Muise,’ however, is to be revived.—It is said that Madame and M. Gueymard are about to leave the French for the Italian stage: a proceeding hazardous, to say the least of it. Setting aside the difficulties of a new language, neither lady nor gentleman has any delicacy or variety of vocal style; and the latter has worn his voice by misuse. It need surprise no one should they turn up in London.—Meanwhile, the new tenor singer, who is always to do wonders for the Grand Opéra, and rarely, if ever, does them, has again turned up:—this time as one of the *Orphéonistes* of Avignon. The voice, however, is described as in want of training.

Revival, too, seems to be found serviceable, if not indispensable, at the Opéra Comique, which theatre cannot be described as in a healthy state, being obviously in want of a *prima donna*. Adroit, well-prepared young ladies are habitually supplied to it by the Conservatoire; but it is not one among ten who can interest or retain her public; while the new composers appear to have lost fancy, or the talent for success,—M. Félicien David, perhaps, excepted,—whose ‘Lalla Rookh’ pleases more than the journalists, when the opera was produced, predicted. Great attention has been bestowed on the revival of Grétry's ‘Zémire et Azor,’ now some ninety years old. What's in a date? Some of the composer's ideas have as fresh an aspect of youth as Ninon de l'Enclos, the apocryphal, preserved to her ninetieth year. In everything like situation, the pertinence of sound to sense and stage effect is excellent:—compare, for instance, the scene where Zémire resolves on sacrificing herself for her father with the most forcible passage in Spohr's opera on the same subject. Marmontel, however, got a very short distance beyond paleness and prettiness in his opera-books; and Grétry, though graceful and sincere, was, as a musical inventor, merely slim (if the conceit may be permitted) in his forms and delicate in his colours. ‘Zémire et Azor,’ then, will probably continue to please for a while, though but gently and soberly. The heroine, Madlle. Baretti, is not without elegance of look and action; she has a fair soprano voice, the success of which is impaired by the too fashionable modern vice of vibration, and by that habit of gliding from interval to interval which makes a sigh perilously resemble a yawn. The *Beast-Prince* (M. Warot),—the afflicted parent (M. Troy, who has improved),—the droll servant, *Ali* (M. Ponchard), are, in their several ways, satisfactory.

Another revival has been attended with greater interest—that of Boieldieu's ‘Dame Blanche.’ Perhaps no French opera has kept its success so

long as this; it is now closely approaching its thousandth representation. Everywhere, too, in Germany the work has been for a quarter of a century past a favourite. Some of the favour, no doubt, may be ascribed to the passion of fashion, which the Waverley Novels were beginning to excite on the Continent when it was composed. Some may belong to the snatches of Scotch melody combined and treated in it by Boieldieu with a view of getting at local colour: but, beyond these attractions, the solid portion of the music has, unquestionably, satisfied our neighbours. The English have been obstinate in never liking the opera, while they are willing to receive the far poorer ‘Martha’ of M. Flotow.—For such aversions and preferences who shall give a reason? To our ears, the brilliancy and youth of many parts of ‘La Dame Blanche,’—may, too, and their force (a quality not common with Boieldieu)—have come like a surprise on the late occasion of hearing it; but, then, within our experience, the opera has never been so well performed as now. The principal parts are sustained, with true French spirit, by Madlles. Cico, Belia, Révilly, M.M. Léon Achard (the new tenor), Berthelier (who, besides being excellently farcical as an actor, in the accomplishment of audible and rapid pronunciation equals the best Italian *buffo* of the old school), and Barielle. The well-known auction *finale* to the second act could be done with such perfection of animation and point on no other stage. The good looks of Madlle. Cico are much in her favour. That her voice, a soprano, has been trained, is evident; and one or two of her *cadenzas* belong to the good school of singing. She may, possibly, develop into an artist fit for the Grand Opéra; but in her present occupation something of charm is wanting.—M. Léon Achard must be spoken of in another key. Some years ago, when he made his appearance at the Théâtre Lyrique, in ‘Le Billet de Marguerite,’ by M. Gevaert, with Madlle. Lauters (now Madame Gueymard), he was a very young man, with a slight figure and a slight voice, neither of them unpleasing. Figure and voice have both filled up. Should his appearance in Boieldieu's opera afford a fair sample of his powers (as we are inclined to believe), he is the best tenor singer who has been heard at the Opéra Comique during the past quarter of a century. His voice is clear, even, perfectly in tune; sufficiently forcible; extensive in compass, taking into account the *falsetto*, which mounts to E in *alt*, a supplement which he knows how to combine with his natural notes without a break,—in this unlike M. Montaubry. It is a voice which speaks to the moment, and tells in all concerted music without strain,—in this unlike M. Roger's.—The same ease, which, as the poet says, “comes of art, not chance,” without frivility, is to be heard in his execution. The new tenor's *roulades* are honest; the closes of his phrases are large without that caricatured expression which we owe to modern Italy, and have come absolutely to hate. In short, M. Léon Achard seems, as a singer, well to merit the real success he has met in the hands of the whole audience, as distinguished from the squadron of *claqueurs*, whose noisy, wooden plaudits are as distasteful to every righteous ear as is the shout on the penultimate pause so dear to the votaries and interpreters of Signor Verdi's music. Of the newcomer's qualities as an actor, we must speak more temperately. If he be without *finesse*, he is without affectation. As *George Brown* he is animated and busy. At no distant day he may grow more portly than fits the received notion of stage lovers. Meanwhile, a gay, bright and honourable career seems to be before him.

PRINCESS'S.—The new management of this theatre appears to be fast recovering from the error of the opening night. ‘The Love-Chase,’ which was acted for four nights last week and two this, has been most effectively mounted. We have seldom seen it better acted. In one respect, that of *Widow Green*, by Mrs. H. Marston, it would be impossible to cast the character better. The *Constance* of Miss Sedgwick ranks among the best and strongest of this lady's assumptions, and is indeed a lively portrait of rustic good-temper and honest passion. It has, too, fewer of her charac-

teristic faults; or rather those faults themselves are in favour of her conception. The part is peculiar, and requires some of the qualities which belong especially to the style of the fair *artiste*. We must add a word in commendation of Mr. Fitzjames's *Sir William Fondlove*, which, for so young an actor, was an extraordinary and successful embodiment. The *Lydia* of Miss C. Aylmer indicated considerable progress; — and her *Laura Lecom*, in the drama of 'Time Tried All,' which preceded the stock-play of the evening, affords hope that, with the practice she is now likely to obtain, she will become an actress of considerable power.

OLYMPIC.—On Monday, a new farce was produced, the subject taken by Mr. Horace Wigan from a recent French piece. It has relation to the current events of the time, and is entitled 'A Southerner just Arrived.' The scene is placed in Manchester, and the time fixed for the present year. The incidents are ridiculously extravagant. The hero, *Felix Foister* (Mr. Neville), is surprised by *Jabez Julep* (Mr. H. Wigan) in paying his addresses to his wife, and flies from the incensed husband with such precipitancy that he takes to the roofs of the houses, and finds refuge in the drawing-room of a neighbouring dwelling. Here he conceals himself in a chimney, and when he comes forth is mistaken for a mulatto by Mr. Ebenezer Franchise, the owner of the mansion (Mr. G. Cooke). Franchise is a cotton-manufacturer, but, being an abolitionist in opinion, is afflicted in his conscience at owing his fortune to the produce of slave-labour. Here is an apparent opportunity for atonement; and rushing at once to the absurd conclusion that Felix is a fugitive slave, he willingly gives him unconditional protection. Felix, too, humours the delusion by singing a nigger-melody descriptive of his escape. But the delinquent is followed by Mr. Julep, and his presence it might have been supposed would have changed the face of affairs; but it does not, for Franchise, following up his preconceived idea, regards Jabez as a Southern planter, and places a cat-o'-nine-tails in Foister's hands to scourge him out of the apartment. Julep is exceedingly irritated, and so explosive in his anger, that his behaviour goes far certainly to confirm the idea. Explanation ensues; and Felix, having washed his face, and obtained the favourable notice of the old philanthropist's daughter, is accepted as her husband. Having now no further inducement to interfere with other men's wives, the adventures of Felix conclude, and the audience reward with their plaudits a new drama full of humour and bustle.

STRAND.—A new farce, entitled 'Jack's Delight,' produced on Monday, proved a decided success. It is from the pen of Mr. T. J. Williams, and written for the purpose of re-introducing Miss Mary Marshall, after six years' absence in America. The heroine, *Mrs. Brush*, is an inhabitant of Barnstaple, who supposes that her husband, Jack, has been eaten by cannibals in the South Seas. Desirous of a second marriage, she persecutes Mr. *Titus Brown* (Mr. Danvers) with her attentions, much to the annoyance of him and his father, Mr. *Holland Brown* (Mr. Ray), whose house she perpetually invades. As Titus has a love affair with *Miss Euphemia Flower* (Miss Hughes), the pertinacity of Mrs. Brush in remaining on the premises is inconvenient. The two Browns resort to stratagem, and, disguising themselves as sailors, pretend to be the trustees of Jack Brush, and the bearers of his last requests to his disconsolate widow. They have forgotten, however, to secure their agreement in the same story by previous rehearsal, and Mrs. Brush easily detects the imposition. However, the affair takes another turn; for Mrs. Brush has received a letter certifying that the long-lost Jack is still living; and thus Titus is left free to wed Euphemia without any further interruption from "Jack's Delight," whose wavering fidelity is thus restored to its proper object. The acting of Miss Marshall is in the broad style of comic art, and commanded the most liberal applause of the audience.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP.—On making up the accounts of this year's Music Meeting of The Three Choirs, a deficit appears beyond that of most former years. Who can wonder? The managers of these entertainments will not keep pace with the time. Their "Festival" is no longer the event that it used to be. County families forsake their fastnesses, and after the day's shopping can, without trouble or parade, enjoy better Oratorios at Exeter Hall, than any performance attainable once in three years under the presidency of some ill-assured local celebrity, who, let him be even so valuable a cathedral musician, cannot have the training and experience as a conductor which the English will no longer dispense with. Coaches-and-six have gone out, and watchmen who cried the hour, warning thieves to keep out of their way. But signs of the times such as these are apparently unheeded by the managers of the Meetings of the Three Choirs.—As we are talking of autumn solemnities which have passed without any minute report, we may say that the *Eisteddfod*, this year, has yielded a surplus to those who keep the treasury of those old-world Welsh meetings. Some attempt, we understand, may possibly be made to widen the sphere of action in 1863; but how this is to be reconciled with the obstinate nationality of the inhabitants of the Principality, it is hard to imagine.

At Monday's *Popular Concert*, the "full pieces" were Beethoven's Septett, led by Herr Joachim, and Weber's Pianoforte Quartett, with M. Halle at the pianoforte. Miss Banks and Mr. Santley were the singers.

The pupils of the Royal Academy of Music have given their first Concert for the season. The only one mentioned with anything like distinction is Miss Agnes Ziumermann, of whose merits as a pianist, and solid musical knowledge, we have heard from witnesses in whom reliance is to be placed.

It is said that Madame Miolan-Carvalho will sing the principal part in Mr. Ball's "Bohemian Girl," at the Théâtre Lyrique. The new theatre opened a few evenings since with a grand concert, for which M. Gounod composed a *pièce d'occasion*, and in which Mesdames Viardot, Miolan-Carvalho, Cabel and Faure, Lefebvre, and M. Battaille took part.—On the following evening the regular performances commenced with the revival of M. Grisar's "La Chatte Métamorphosée."

The names of two new operas, 'Ginevra di Scozia,' by Signor Rota, produced at Turin, and 'Don Fabio,' a comic opera, words and music by Signor Pensio, at Leghorn, may be announced. But the old South land of music has grown barren, both as regards fancies and singers.—In Paris there seems small possibility of keeping life in Italian Opera.—Here Mr. Mapleson gives more last nights, after the very last, to satisfy those who delight in Mdlle. Titiens and Signor Giuglini: and these more last November nights are welcome, as proving that there is a public in London all the year round; otherwise they count for nothing in point of artistic interest.—A young English lady, who sings as Mdlle. Castri, pupil of Herr Goldberg, has appeared as one of his Opera company in Ireland.—Dublin journals assure us, with more than ordinary success.

Mdlle. Barbara Marchisio, rumour says, will shortly leave the Italian Opera stage, on the occasion of her marriage with General Cialdini.

While negotiations are pending for the improvement of our luckless and fruitless Royal Academy of Music, other Continental schools of education, worse circumstanced as regards attainable professors, are giving out results concerning the value of which there cannot be two opinions. Brussels is sending forth redoubtable violinists: of one of these, Señor Monasterio, who has gone home to serve his country at Madrid, German professors who have colleges and classes of their own speak in the highest possible praise. We heard another, less famous, Mynheer Heermann, a few weeks since, whose reading and playing of classical music would have done credit to many an older man. Leipzig, again, continues to produce scholars who, in right of their culture, may almost rank as masters from the moment when they quit the Conservatory. Of

a young American gentleman there, by parentage German, Mr. Dannreuther, mention has already been made on the authority of a Correspondent. We can accredit from personal experience every word which has been said concerning his remarkable promise as a pianist of high intellectual, physical and executive endowments, who but wants that which Time alone can give him. Then the public may look for a couple of violinists of the first class from the same source. One, Fräulein Friese, though very young, is already almost the most attractive and complete female player on the instrument whom we can call to mind; being particularly excellent, among many other merits, in that composed management of time and accent which marks first-class musical organization well developed. The other, Herr Wilhelmy (also very young) may become the German wonder-player of his generation. A more superb tone has probably never been drawn by bow from strings than his; and his powers of execution may be inferred from the fact that he plays Herr Ernst's *solo* (about the most difficult written for his instrument) with finish and spirit. Nothing can be much less satisfactory than the state of vocal tuition at the Conservatory; but the Germans absolutely seem as if they had ceased to care for, or, at least, to understand, this branch of music.

MISCELLANEA

Horticulture.—So soon as it was decided that the Horticultural Society should hold an international exhibition of fruits, cereals and other vegetables, the Council of the Society addressed explanatory letters to the British Consuls all over the world. Some of the replies are not without interest. Thus, the Consul at Islay, in Peru, writes—"In reply to your letter, permit me to observe that it supposes a much more advanced state of horticulture than at present exists in Peru. Horticulture, indeed, can scarcely be said to exist at all here,—at least only of a very limited kind. There is a little rude cultivation of fruit-trees and garden vegetables; but such a person as a nurseryman, I believe, is not known." The following is from the letter of our Consul at Tabriz, in Persia:—"You will understand the difficulty and delay which attend collections of this kind in this country, when I inform you that to obtain good seed of some species of fruits I am obliged to have the latter consumed in my house; the seed one usually finds in the market being of mixed good and bad without distinction, and that to procure really good melon-seed, for instance, a large consumption of the fruit is required, as probably not one melon in five sold in the market is worth eating. In flowers Persia is very poor, excepting in such as grow wild in the mountains, and to which little attention is given. The country from north to south produces many kinds of rice of delicious and delicate quality, but as it is not procurable here in the husk I refrain from sending specimens, at least for the present. There are no nurserymen or horticulturists in Persia to whom notice to bring the programme and schedule of the Society which you have transmitted to me." The Consul from Varna reports thus:—"I regret to be obliged to state, that after having made diligent inquiries in all the principal towns within my Consular jurisdiction, I have heard that no such class of persons exists as florists, horticulturists or nurserymen, within the limits of my Consular jurisdiction up to the present moment; but I have heard with great satisfaction that His Majesty the Sultan has decreed the formation of establishments for the study of the above-mentioned branches in various parts of the empire; and I presume that this province, which is an important one, will not be left without them. Agriculture itself is in a most deplorable state, the implements of husbandry being of a most primitive nature, being in fact precisely of the same kind as those which were in use hundreds of years ago; which is much to be regretted, as the soil is very fertile, and, if cultivated properly, would yield at least three times the produce it does at present."

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